FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 062 *29 March 1979*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Baghdad Arab Ministerial Conference Proceedings 28-29 Mar A 1
At-Turayki's Address A 1
At-Turayki, Foreign Ministers' Meeting A 2
Foreign Ministers' Departures A 2
Iraqi Trade Minister's Address A 3
'Arafat's Speech 28 Mar [VOP] A 4
29 Mar Meeting Postponement A 6
Syrian Delegation's Withdrawal A 6
Further Delegations' Withdrawals A 7
Economic Council 'Emergency' Meeting A 7
Atmosphere of 'Ambiguity, Tension' A 7
Saddam Husayn, 'Arafat Meeting A 8
Meetings Resume 29 Mar A 8
UAE Adherence to Baghdad Summit A 8
Saudi Arabia's Baghdad Adherence A 8
PFLP's Habash Interview A 9
24-Hour Adjournment A 10
Yemeni Reconciliation Summit in Kuwait Begins 28 Mar A 11
YAR President's Address A 11
Foreign Ministers Meeting A 12
Summit Talks 29 Mar A 12
Isma'il 'Prepared To Resign' A 12

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Egyptian Workers Assured of Conditions C 1

OMAN

U.S. Reconnaisance, Monitoring Ship Visits Qabus C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

Yamani Interviewed on Oil Production, Prices 28 Mar C 1
Yamani Says Saudis Will Not 'Punish Egypt' C 2
Yamani Calls for Cut in Oil Use C 3
'UKAZ: Oil Policy Not Aimed at Increasing Prices [25 Mar] C 4

UAE

Supreme Council Affirms Adherence to Baghdad Summit C 5

YEMEN--YAR

President Salih Makes Statement Before Leaving for Kuwait C 6

EGYPT

As-Sadat Holds Press Conference in Washington 28 March D 1
Remarks on Libyan Moves D 3
More on As-Sadat News Conference With Israeli Journalists D 4
As-Sadat Sends Cable to Vice President Mubarak D 6
As-Sadat Talks to Egyptian Community in Washington D 7
Goes to Bonn D 7
Defense Minister 'Ali on U.S. Weapons to Egypt D 8
NDP Holds Cairo Rally in Support of Peace Treaty D 8
Processions in Support of As-Sadat D 9
AL-AKHBAR Comments on Division at Baghdad Meeting D 9
Khalil Interviewed on Effects of Treaty With Israel D 10
[London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 27 Mar]

IRAQ

Kuwait Paper Reports Iraqi Military Support for Jordan E 1
ATH-THAWRAH Warns Against Failure To Implement Resolutions E 1
Palestinian Leader Hawatimah Leaves Baghdad E 2
Ghawshah Departure E 2

JORDAN

Prime Minister Briefs Cabinet on Recent Arab Contacts F 1
Prime Minister Badran Comments on Baghdad Conference F 1
Ambassador To Return From Cairo 'Early Next Week' [AD-DUSTUR 29 Mar] F 1

LEBANON

Speaker Al-As'ad Comments on Peace Treaty G 1
Cabinet Holds Weekly Meeting; Al-Huss Makes Statement G 1

SYRIA

Progressive Front Issues Statement Against Treaty H 1
Assembly Speaker Calls for Arab Parliamentary Meeting H 3
President al-Asad Interviewed by NEWSWEEK H 3
Foreign Minister Khaddam Interviewed by Paris Paper H 7
[LE MONDE 28 Mar]

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Meets With Guinea-Bissau's Cabral I 1

LIBYA

Federal Council Issues Statement on Egyptian-Israeli Treaty I 1

MOROCCO

Press Comments on Signing of Egyptian-Israeli Treaty I 2

SUDAN

Numayri Interviewed on Domestic, Arab, African Scene I 3
[London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 21 Mar]

BRIEFS

Tunisian Oil Production

ISRAEL

Begin Says New Autonomy Proposals Ready in 6 Weeks N 1
[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 28 Mar]
Dayan Returns to Israel, Discusses Gestures to Arabs N 1
Further Details N 2
Begin Denies Reports of Gestures to Arabs N 2
Begin's Announcement Takes Gaza Authorities by Surprise N 3
[HA'ARETZ 28 Mar]
Israeli Ministers on Reported Gestures to Egypt N 3
Weizman HA'ARETZ Interview on Relations With Egypt N 4
[28 Mar]
Talks Between Shelli Member, PLO Reported N 5
Ministers Hammer, Abu-Hatzera Form Party Front N 7
[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 28 Mar]
'AL HAMISHMAR Article Details Settlement Plans N 8
[28 Mar]
Transfer of 'Al-Arish Military Government Begins N 10
Regional Council Established in Gaza Strip N 10
Qiryat Arba' Residents Decide to Retain Weapons N 11
Security Personnel Deny Qiryat Arba' Statement N 11
First Arab RAKAH Support for Peace Agreement N 11
29 Mar Morning Press on Autonomy, Councils, Gestures N 11

IRAN

Government Issues Statement on Conbad-e Kavus Fighting R 1
Gorgan Police Chief Arrested R 1
Relative Calm Reported R 2
Further Reportage, Comment on Upcoming Referendum R 2
Sunni Leaders in Torbat-e Jan R 2
Kermanshah Tribesmen Cable Support R 2
Military To Vote R 3
Mahabad Clergy Support Referendum R 3
Interior Minister Requests Cooperation R 3
Alert for 29-31 March R 4
Assyrian, Chaldean Association R 4
Voting Details, Results R 4
Kordestan Party Delegation Meets With Khomeyni R 4
Tehhan Reports Shooting in Zanjan on 27 March R 5
Sanandaj Rally Supports Palestinians, Condemns Treaty R 5
PARS Reports 28 March Demonstrations in Tabriz R 5
Court Authorities Release 304 Detainees R 6
Commerce Minister Comments on Food Supply R 6
Tehran University Monitors Earthquake in Behbehan R 6
Ayyatollah Khomeyni Interviewed by Vienna DIE PRESSE [23 Mar] R 6
NVOI Calls for 'Purge', Welcomes Salary Reductions R 8

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

Kabul Radio Cited on Formation of Supreme Defense Council S 1

BANGLADESH

Government Releases 447 More Prisoners S 1
President Promoted to Lieutenant General S 1

INDIA

Desai Talks With Thai Premier at Delhi Airport S 1
Discussion on Indochina S 1
Ram on India's Planned Acquisition of Submarines, Jaguars S 2
Indian Official on Airlifting Nuclear Fuel from U.S. S 2
External Affairs Ministry Issues Annual Report S 3
Indo-Polish Cooperation Protocol Signed 24 Mar S 3

PAKISTAN

Court Rejects Bhutto Habeas Corpus Petition S 4
Death of PLO Official Blamed on 'Imperialist Agents' S 4

BAGHDAD ARAB MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS 28-29 MAR

At-Turayki's Address

LD281710 Tripoli JANA in English 1410 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Baghdad, March 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The foreign secretary, Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turakyi, addressed the conference of Arab foreign ministers in Baghdad last night affirming that the step taken by the defeated president of Egypt is considered as treason of the Arab nation and the Palestinian people and should not be passed without punishment. He pointed out that the defeated Egyptian president mobilized over 250 thousand soldiers on the borders of the Jamahiriyah in preparation for an aggression against the Jamahiriyah. He called upon Arab foreign ministers to implement the resolutions and recommendations of the 9th Arab summit conference taken by Arab kings and presidents against the Egyptian regime.

Then the foreign secretary cautioned against being lenient, stressing that any Arab regime which supports the defeated Egyptian president is considered as a puppet to Zionism and American imperialism.

He added, "the defeated president of Egypt has ignored the Khartoum's 'no's' uttered by the Arab nation and submitted to the 'no's' of terrorist Begin which he announced at the Knesset in answer to the statements of the Egyptian prime minister. He went to Washington and signed the treaty of treason and shame knowing beforehand terrorist Begin's 'no's'". The foreign secretary stressed the necessity to sever diplomatic relations with the Egyptian regime; to transfer the Arab League headquarters from Egypt; to halt financial aid and oil supplies to it and to expel the Egyptian regime from the Arab League and other international organizations, especially the Organization of African Unity, the non-aligned movement and the Islamic group and to boycott U.S.A. politically and economically.

He said, "We meet today for the second time in Baghdad at ministerial level after we met with the Arab heads of state a few months ago when the defeated Egyptian president signed the 'Stable David' accord.

"We must admit that at the ninth summit, some of us were uncertain about the outcome of the accord, but others were confident that the defeated Egyptian president would not conclude a treasonous treaty. But now his treason has become a fact".

He added, "Although we shared this opinion, yet in an attempt to safeguard Arab unity and solidarity, we agreed upon what we could call 'minimum' decisions.

"However, since yesterday, doubt was replaced by fact, making things clear. We meet here today in accordance with the resolutions of the Arab heads of states, after being certain that the defeated president sold out our cause, Palestine, and marred the dignity of all Arabs. Therefore the situation has changed completely since the Baghdad summit".

Dr at-Turayki said, "Since the October war in 1973, which claimed the lives of thousands of Egyptians, Syrians, and Palestinians, we in the Jamahiriyah have warned the Arab nation of the danger of the defeated president's policy since the beginning of his course of shame marked by 'kilo 101' agreement."

"We have been referred to time and again as hardliners whose differences with the Egyptian regime were personal despite the fact that there is now any Arab people as close to the Egyptian people as the Libyans".

He added, "the 'kilo 101' agreement was the first in the treacherous sequence. The Egyptian regime aimed at us, launching an aggression against us as part of a vicious plot. Arab countries started mediating between us. However, despite Libyan and Egyptian bloodshed, we did not sever our political and economic relations with the Egyptian regime. Nevertheless, the conspiracy went on. Only when the national cause was at stake did we decide to boycott the regime even before the conference of steadfastness and confrontation was held".

He went on, "What took place at the 'Black House' yesterday is not just the signing of a treaty but a real alliance between American imperialism, the Zionist enemy and the Egyptian regime. This has changed the Arab political and military balance. We reaffirm that the Jamahiriyah is a confrontation country to check the American-Zionist-Egyptian alliance."

Dr at-Turayki added, "The Arab nation is passing through a dangerous stage, which compels us to assess the Arab stand as a whole for we must shoulder our national responsibilities as the existence of the Arab nation is now being threatened, for the signing of the capitulatory treaty, the giving up of Arab territories and the damaging of our dignity cannot just be considered a concession but constitutes an alliance against our nation."

At-Turayki, Foreign Ministers' Meeting

LD281830 Tripoli JANA in English 1713 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Baghdad, March 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The foreign secretary, Dr 'Ali at-Turayki, held a series of marginal contacts with several foreign ministers of the Arab countries participating in the conference of foreign and economy ministers currently held in Baghdad to discuss the Arab current developments and coordinate points of views on the situation resulting from the treason committed by the Egyptian defeated president against his nation and people.

Our correspondent in Baghdad reported that the foreign secretary reviewed with the foreign ministers of Syria, Democratic Yemen, Algeria, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Jordan as well as Yasir 'Arafat, the different items on the agenda of the conference of Arab foreign and economy ministers with regard to implementing the economic and political sanctions approved by the Arab presidents and kings in Baghdad's summit against the Egyptian regime in case it signed the treaty of humiliation and shame.

Foreign Ministers Departures

JN281225 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1146 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 March--Kuwait Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah left Baghdad today.

In a predeparture statement, Shaykh as-Sabah said that there is a great desire to implement everything that has been agreed on. He added that there is planning underway for future work to protect the unity of the Arab nation from deterioration and from the Zionist infiltration in light of the Egyptian-Zionist treaty.

He added that economic infiltration is no less dangerous than military infiltration and that this will be taken into consideration in protecting the Arab nation.

YAR Foreign Minister Husayn al-'Amri and his PDRY counterpart, Muhammad Salih Muti, also left Baghdad after attending part of the Arab foreign ministers meeting.

Speaking to an INA correspondent, YAR Foreign Minister al-'Amri said that his country is participating in the meeting in Baghdad so as to implement the Baghdad summit resolutions and translate words into actions.

Speaking about the summit meeting between the presidents of both Yemens, he said that the Iraqi brothers are still making efforts to restore unity between the two parts of Yemen and to return the situation to normal. He said: We are very optimistic that every cause for trouble between brothers will be eliminated.

The PDRY foreign minister then said that the current Arab foreign ministers meeting is very important because it will decide on important resolutions to foil the Egyptian ruler's treacherous treaty by imposing an economic or political boycott.

PDRY Foreign Minister Muti expressed the hope that PDRY President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il and YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih will be able to achieve positive results so as to serve the interests of the Arab peoples in the two Yemens within the framework of the Arab nation's efforts to confront imperialism.

Iraqi Trade Minister's Address

JN281536 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1435 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 March--Hasan 'Ali, Revolution Command Council member and minister of trade, has said that the Arab nation should encircle and isolate As-Sadat's regime politically, economically and logistically.

In a speech he delivered today in his capacity as chairman of the Iraqi delegation to the Arab foreign and economy ministers meeting, Hasan 'Ali said: We should all be sincerely and honestly eager to enhance the pan-Arab affiliation of the Egyptian Arab people.

He stressed that pan-Arab responsibility makes it incumbent on all Arabs to rise to decisions beyond the minimum decided at the Baghdad Arab summit conference in order to prove to traitor As-Sadat and the world that the course of treason cannot succeed and that it should be faced by severe political and economic punishment.

Hasan 'Ali said that the Zionist entity is planning to dominate the Arab economy, since this economy is considered the basic trade and financial medium and center for the industrial Arab world. He added that this entity seeks to abolish the Arab economic boycott and to organically link the Arab nation's economies with [word indistinct] relations of world markets and economic patterns incompatible with the requirements of the true and comprehensive Arab development. He affirmed that the Zionist entity is a colonialist settlement project thoroughly founded and financed by the colonialist states.

The Iraqi delegation chairman pointed out that the enemy's strategy is based on striking at the process of Arab economic integration, achieving expansion and hegemony, and recreating the economic and political map in the region in a manner that achieves its aggressive aims. He warned that the enemy is now making a bridge of Egypt to contain and dominate the Arab economy.

The minister called for drafting an Arab strategy that consolidates the joint Arab development and Arab economic integration in its various approaches. He also called for utilizing the elements of Arab self-power, expanding the establishment of joint Arab production projects, developing the Arab economic boycott weapon and diversifying international relations and consolidating them with the Third World states.

The minister said further: As-Sadat has chosen to stand with the Arab nation's enemies in one trench, in order to implement the enemy plans and schemes at a time when alliances in the region are collapsing. As-Sadat has chosen the aggressive tripartite alliance. He added that the capitulationist treaty is a new link in the chain of colonialist and Zionist schemes aimed at the nation's presence and unity, in order to control its resources and capabilities. He said As-Sadat has achieved the most important of the Zionist enemy's aims by isolating Arab Egypt from the Arab nation, giving up Arab sovereignty, [words indistinct] and relinquishing the historic Arab rights, despite the waves of pan-Arab denunciation, condemnation, rejection and wrath.

'Arafat's Speech 28 Mar

JN290856 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 29 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar delivered a speech at the Arab foreign and economic ministers conference in Baghdad last evening.

Brother Abu 'Ammar expressed his dissatisfaction with the recommendations formulated by the drafting committee. These recommendations were based on positions adopted by some Arab delegations which refused to adopt a decisive stand against the As-Sadat regime after he signed the treasonous peace treaty with the Zionist enemy under the auspices of the United States.

In his speech, Abu 'Ammar said: I do not know what I am going to tell my people in our occupied territories. These people have not rested since Carter's visit to the area. You have seen how our sons threw rocks at Zionist tanks. Am I to tell them that I attended the Arab foreign ministers conference and that the conference decided to reward the traitors? I do not want to talk about the rights of the Palestinian people, but I wonder if these people have been sentenced to be trampled on, as Dulles said. Abu 'Ammar added: Is Jerusalem mine and are those holy places mine? All of you will be required to defend Mecca if it falls under occupation. I ask this Arab group which represents one of the Arab summits. [sentence as heard] As-Sadat has relinquished Palestinian rights and, unfortunately for us, we have no one to defend us. I say that traitors in the Arab nation are honored. [sentence as heard]

Abu 'Ammar added: An Egyptian mission has been in the Zionist entity for well over a month. Its task is to entice and threaten our people. How can our people stand and confront tanks? Jerusalem is one of your holy places. It is also your Jerusalem. Am I to tell my people that there is no Arab nation which will defend them? What should I tell the Palestinian people at a time when they are being subjected to pressures to agree to self-ruler? To agree to this self-rule means treason.

Abu 'Ammar added that treason in this nation has become something to be taken into consideration. When I attended the conference yesterday, I thought that each of you were going to inform me that you had taken the first step by imposing sanctions against As-Sadat's and that you had come to the conference to take the first step against the United States, the spearhead of the conspiracy. However, no one spoke about this. I realize that there are U.S. pressures and that there is the 6th fleet. However, I also know that there should be a minimum to which we should be committed.

We attended the conference of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation and the Baghdad summit conference at Iraq's side. At the summit conference we announced that we had severed our relations with As-Sadat and we requested you to sever your relations with him. At that time you said, let us wait. Maybe he will not sign. As-Sadat has now signed. Right and wrong are now clear, but you say, let us wait until he opens the embassy. None of us is pressuring the other. I beseech you in the name of Arabism, religion, honor and brotherhood to stand up and confront the existing predicament. There are troop concentrations on the northern and eastern fronts, and we must realize the danger of the conspiracy.

Abu 'Ammar added that Carter is trying to establish a U.S.-Israeli pact. He wants to obtain Arab military secrets. However, the free officers [not further identified] will confront this and they have already done so.

A committee was set up to investigate how the ship we sent to blow up Eilat passed through. They want to know how the Palestinians managed to send a ship through the Suez Canal. What do you want from the Palestinians? Do you want us to become slaves? We do not wish such a fate.

Abu 'Ammar added: Before we launched the revolution, you reproached us for being slaves. I appeal to you in the name of the martyrs of Jeruslame, whom they murdered, to rise to the level of responsibility and to prevent our people from becoming killers. Do not corner our people and do not transform us into gangs. The situation is more serious than any dispute over wordings. I have learned that Iran will sever relations with Egypt. Can you live with the present situation and not sever your relations too? Despite pressures, Pakistan today announced its rejection of the treaty. There are two divisions on the border with Libya apparently intended to attack it. Even Formosa withdrew its ambassador when the United States recognized the PRC.

Abu 'Ammar asked: Why do you not punish the United States? Why are you meeting? Is it just to say: Should we or should we not punish the United States? In the names of the Palestinian people and your achievements and peoples, I appeal to your honor to adopt a stand.

After they tried to entice me, they began threatening me through a European envoy. They told me that they would cause me troubles. However, we are determined to continue the struggle. Arab citizens are now daily speaking about the Syrian forces and the Iraqi forces. The citizens want to deal a blow. You must understand why our people carried out operations yesterday. Demonstrations took place in Paris, Bangladesh and Jerusalem. The Egyptian information media talk and lie about self-rule and the Palestinian state. What kind of self-rule is it that does not apply to the land? They even want to steal our people's water in their territories.

There will be futher capitulation and the situation is serious. May you shoulder your responsibilities before war reaches you.

29 Mar Meeting Postponement

JN282215 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2200 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 March--The Arab foreign and economy ministers decided tonight to postpone their meetings for tomorrow. In a statement to INA, Foreign Minister and conference Chairman Dr Sa'dun Hammadi explained that the postponement of the meeting is due to the fact that the political report needs crystallization and agreement on its articles.

He explained that the general meeting of the Arab foreign and economy ministers will resume tomorrow after deliberating and agreeing on the important articles of the political report in order to bring these deliberations to fruition and to emerge, if possible, with a unified stand on the essential points in the report.

Dr Hammadi added that the meeting will be set for tomorrow after the ministers finish their work. The time of the meeting will be set tomorrow morning.

Syrian Withdrawal

JN282145 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad--The Syrian delegation has announced its withdrawal from the evening session of the Arab foreign and economy ministers meeting. The SANA correspondent in Baghdad has learned that the Syrian delegation withdrew from the evening session of the Arab foreign and economy ministers meeting in support of the Palestinian delegation, which also withdrew from the session in protest against the stands of a minority of Arab countries that tried to make amendments on the working paper which was approved by the drafting committee and which provided for sanctions against traitor As-Sadat after he signed the treaty of humiliation and shame.

PLO Executive Committee member Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh had announced the withdrawal of the Palestinian delegation from the sessions of the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference until a decision is made on boycotting the agent Egyptian regime and implementing the Baghdad summit conference resolutions.

The INA has cited Mr 'Abd Rabbuh as saying that the Palestinian delegation will not return to this meeting until the matter is resolved, because we are now at a historic turning point and there is no room for middle-of-the-road solutions or flexible stands when the matter involves the Arab nation's future.

'Abd Rabbuh said: As-Sadat's stand on the Arab League makes it incumbent upon all Arab states to sever their political and economic relations with the Egyptian regime immediately and to seek to expel this regime from the nonalined movement, the OAU and the Islamic Conference. This is the only punishment for the traitor and this is the Arab nation's will. We will act according to this will and will not accept any compromise.

The Libyan delegation also announced its withdrawal from this session.

Further Delegations' Withdrawals

JN282005 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1940 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 28 March--The Syrian, Libyan and Palestinian delegations have withdrawn from the evening session of the Arab foreign and economy ministers' meetings. The session is still in progress.

The GULF NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Baghdad has learned that the Palestinian delegation's withdrawal from the evening session of the Arab foreign and economy ministers' conference came after a speech delivered by PLO's Yasir 'Arafat, in which he condemned the separate peace agreement between Egypt and Israel. He called on the Arab ministers to take more positive resolutions in imposing stringent sanctions against Egypt. Following this, 'Arafat announced the Palestinian delegation's withdrawal from the session. He was followed by the delegations from Libya and Syria.

The session was then adjourned for 1 hour at the Algerian delegation's suggestion.

Consultations are now being held among the Arab foreign and economy ministers in order to come out with a unified formula and to study the withdrawal of the three Arab delegations from the session.

Economic Council 'Emergency' Meeting

JN281709 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 March--The Arab Economic Unity Council will hold an emergency meeting at the conclusion of the evening session of the joint meeting of the Arab foreign and economy ministers today.

The council will discuss ways to implement the Baghdad summit resolutions and what will be achieved by the Arab ministers meeting here. It will also discuss the necessary measures to transfer the council's headquarters from Egypt, in addition to the topic of freezing Egypt's membership in the council and the Arab common market.

Participating in this conference are all the Arab member-states but Sudan.

Atmosphere of 'Ambiguity, Tension'

JN281938 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1925 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 March--The GULF NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Baghdad has learned from informed sources here that Syria submitted a working paper to the Arab foreign and economy ministers' session held here this evening, in which it called for closing the Arab institutions in Cairo, expelling Egypt from the nonalined states' group, and imposing an oil embargo on it.

The correspondent added that Iraq submitted a working paper similar to the Syrian paper but included less severe measures against Egypt following the latter's signing of the peace treaty with the Zionist entity.

He further added that an atmosphere of ambiguity and tension prevails at the conference. The sources explained that this is due to the request made by the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front to be firm in adopting resolutions against Egypt.

Saddam Husayn, 'Arafat Meeting

JN281305 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 March--Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council vice chairman, received here today Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman.

During the meeting, they reviewed the current Arab situation and the signing by traitor As-Sadat of the conspiratorial agreement with the Zionist enemy.

The meeting was attended by Na'im Haddad, member of the National Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and official in charge of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Bureau at the National Command; and Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee.

Meetings Resume 29 Mar

JN291112 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1105 GMT 29 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 29 March--The Arab foreign and economy ministers resumed their meeting here at noon today in the presence of all the delegations participating in the meetings.

Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member, headed the Iraqi delegation.

The foreign and economy ministers of 19 Arab countries are participating in the meetings with the exception of Sudan and Oman, and Egypt which was not invited to attend the meetings.

UAE Adherence to Baghdad Summit

JN281900 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1750 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 March--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah has stressed that the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference currently being held in Baghdad is proceeding on a specific course, that is, implementation of the Baghdad summit resolutions despite the fact that there are demands for maximum sanctions against Egypt. These are new demands. However, the conference is proceeding toward achieving its first objective, defined by the Baghdad summit.

In a statement to the Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY correspondent, Rashid 'Abdallah stressed that the UAE stand toward the Baghdad summit resolutions is firm and was declared from the beginning. He said that the UAE will stand against anything that harms the Arab nation's interests in its just cause and struggle against the Zionist enemy.

The conference will resume its meeting this evening and its resolutions are expected to be issued at a later meeting.

Saudi Arabia's Baghdad Adherence

ID290850 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0645 GMT 29 Mar 79 ID

[Text] Baghdad--Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, has stressed that the Kingdom is anxious to implement the decisions of the Baghdad summit conference sincerely and truthfully, including the freezing of Egypt's membership in the Arab League and transferring of the Arab League's headquarters from Cairo.

The prince said that the implementation of these decisions must come within the framework of Arab solidarity and within the framework of the one Arab family through its firm conviction that the implementation of these decisions was a collective Arab responsibility.

Prince Sa'ud, in a press statement here early this morning, said that we believe that the Arab people are equally sincere to their Arab causes, the foremost being the Palestine issue. The foreign minister explained that in order to crystallize the collective wish--considering it the natural and logical way to achieve realization of the targets which we all expect--we must consider various views as long as their motives are true and intentions objective; otherwise, we will also be treating an individual problem in the Arab world separately, which will not be in the interest of our Arab causes in the Arab and international spheres.

The prince stressed that we will continue the march to serve our Arab causes, foremost the Palestinian issue, with resolution and determination despite the campaigns by disbelievers, so that we can reach the targets of our Arab nation at this fateful stage.

PFLP'S Habash Interview

JN281355 Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

["Text" of interview granted by PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash to unidentified correspondent in Baghdad; date not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Dr Habash, in light of the Egyptian regime's joining the enemy camp, what are your views on the effective and qualitative measures which should be taken by the Palestinian revolution in the next phase?

[Answer] The Egyptian regime's joining the enemy camp places the Palestinian revolution and the general Arab national liberation movement in a very delicate and serious position. I think the next phase will be qualitatively different from all past phases of the Palestinian and Arab struggle. This critical and serious phase requires the resistance movement and all its factions to act very responsibly to shoulder the tasks dictated by the phase. As for us in the Palestinian revolution, we should shoulder our military responsibilities, on the one hand, and our political and popular responsibilities, on the other. On the military level, the Palestinian revolution and all its factions should shoulder the responsibility of directing military blows against all sides involved in this alliance which is hostile to our revolution and objectives. We can and must direct military blows against the Zionist entity, As-Sadat's regime, and U.S. imperialism and its interests in particular. Let us work then to mobilize all our forces to escalate our military struggle to the maximum and let us continue this escalation day after day, week after week, and month after month.

As for Jordan, we should embark on a popular and political struggle to gain the right of the Palestinian resistance to be present in Jordan. Our presence in Jordan must be gained through a process of long and constant popular struggle. Afterwards, we have to face the task of protecting our overt military presence in Lebanon. We can perform this task through our strong alliance with the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

The progressive Palestinian factions at this phase should place the following task before all Arab regimes, particularly the nationalist regimes: to implement the Baghdad summit resolutions regarding As-Sadat's treasonous regime. These resolutions should be implemented accurately. They stipulate boycotting this regime diplomatically, politically and economically. These resolutions should also be implemented firmly. The Arab masses should be made to feel the quick implementation of these resolutions. The Palestinian revolution demands that this boycott should not be restricted to As-Sadat's regime, but should later extend to include the head of the snake, namely, U.S. imperialism. Carter is the primary partner in the treasonous agreement. U.S. imperialism is the main force which has promoted and still promotes this treasonous trend. How can we allow ourselves to take measures against As-Sadat's regime and not dare to take the same political and economic measures against U.S. imperialism. U.S. imperialism must be made to feel that patriotic Arab regimes are capable of acting in kind and returning the slap which U.S. imperialism gave to us.

We possess several weapons. We have the economic weapon, particularly the oil weapon. The patriotic Arab regimes are not requested to declare a military war against U.S. imperialism, but they are requested--and they can do this--to take the necessary economic measures, particularly an oil embargo against the United States, because we all know the enormity of the blow we can direct to U.S. imperialism if we actually take such a measure. The Palestinian revolution calls for the immediate convening of a summit conference of the states of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation. Where do the states of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation stand at this critical moment? They must meet on the summit level so that the patriotic regimes can shoulder the tasks they should.

[Question] Dr Habash, soon there will be the third anniversary of Al-'Ard Day. Is there a message you would like to address to the masses of the occupied areas on this occasion?

[Answer] At this phase in particular, the struggle of our Palestinian people in the occupied areas must continue to foil the autonomy plot. We all know that this plot is an essential part of the Camp David agreements. When our masses become capable of foiling this part of the agreements, then the 1 million Palestinian people in occupied Palestine will be capable of foiling the Carter-Begin-As-Sadat agreement. Let us, in the Palestinian revolution and its factions, shoulder our big and multifaceted responsibilities toward our heroic masses in the occupied areas. We must support their steadfastness, supply them with every support, and define with them the clear political and principled line toward the plot of autonomy.

24-Hour Adjournment

JN291355 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1342 GMT 29 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 29 March--The Arab foreign and economy ministers have decided to adjourn their meeting for 24 hours. The postponement of the meeting is intended to give the Arab ministers a chance to contact their governments and to adopt a final stand on an economic and political boycott of Egypt.

Earlier, Iraq called for adjourning the meeting for this reason, after the foreign and economy ministers conference reached a serious crossroads concerning the stand that must be taken on political and economic relations with the As-Sadat regime.

YEMENI RECONCILIATION SUMMIT IN KUWAIT BEGINS 28 MAR

JN281650 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1640 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 28 March--The summit meetings between the presidents of the two parts of Yemen begin here this evening. Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad attended the meeting. The meetings will deal with the normalization of relations between the two parts of Yemen.

YAR President's Address

JN282304 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

["Text" of address by YAR President Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih at the YAR-PDRY summit meeting in Kuwait on 28 March--read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate, God's prayers and benedictions on his faithful messenger: Your Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of fraternal Kuwait; brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, president of the southern part of the homeland: Greetings of Arabism and Islam.

Allow me on behalf of the YAR Arab republic to express most sincere words of amity and gratitude for the warm hospitality we have been accorded from the moment we set foot on the soil of this fraternal country, which has recently hosted the Arab League Council and is today hosting this meeting. Thanks again to the fraternal Kuwaiti amir, government and people.

God's will has crowned with success the efforts exerted by the Arab brothers through the tripartite Iraqi-Syrian-Jordanian initiative and the constructive agreements that followed this initiative which were unanimously approved by the Arab League Council emergency meeting in Kuwait from 4-6 March. We are determined to replace the dialog of rifles and guns with that of brotherhood. Welcome to cooperation and peace. No and a thousand times no to war and aggression.

Cherished brothers, I reaffirm before the entire world and before all the sons of the Yemeni people that we desire that amity, responsibility and constructive cooperation prevail in the relations between the two parts of Yemen in order to restore Yemen's unity and to safeguard our people's sovereignty, independence and spiritual values; to realize all our legitimate aspirations; to strengthen our pan-Arab affiliation; and to contribute to the development of cooperation and coordination between us and our brothers in the Arabian Peninsula, the gulf and all our brothers in their countries, without exception.

It gives me pleasure to affirm our total commitment to the Arab League Council resolutions and our adherence to Arab legitimacy in order to bolster the new beginning that constitutes a common groundwork between the two parts of Yemen. I affirm to all that the dialog of serious unity between the two parts of Yemen will have our complete attention and concern. The will of the Yemeni people will be the basis of the joint committees' work, within the framework of the Cairo agreement and the Tripoli declaration.

May God grant us success for the good of our people and nation. Peace be upon you.

Foreign Ministers Meeting

ID290904 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0755 GMT 29 Mar 79 ID

[Text] Kuwait--The foreign ministers of North Yemen, Husayn al-'Amri, and South Yemen, Muhammad Alih Muti, held a meeting here today to pave the way for the resumption of the reconciliation summit conference between their two countries.

Official sources have stated that the two ministers resumed the study of working papers submitted by both sides following the opening here yesterday of the summit conference between YAR President Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and PDRY President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il at [word indistinct] Palace. The sources went on to say that the two ministers will submit recommendations on these papers to presidents Salih and Isma'il.

The sources stated that the PDRY has submitted a plan for the emergence of integrated unity between the two-parts of Yemen. They went on to add that the Arab League follow-up committee may be called to meet when necessary.

An official source in the PDRY delegation has expressed his optimism that the Kuwait summit will achieve all the goals for which it has been convened. The source, in a statement to KUNA, stressed that his country submitted a plan for integrated unity between the two parts and that the leaders of the north part have shown a desire to study the plan in detail.

Summit Talks 29 Mar

ID290906 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0811 GMT 29 Mar 79 ID

[Text] Kuwait--YAR President Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and PDRY President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il resumed their summit conference here today. The two presidents met at the Peace [Salmiyah] Palace in the presence of the members of their delegations following talks held earlier between the foreign ministers of North Yemen, Hasayn al-'Amri, and Democratic Yemen, Muhammad Salih Muti. The [word indistinct] summit opened yesterday to study plans calling for the establishment of unity between two parts of Yemen.

Isma'il 'Prepared To Resign'

NC291424 Paris AFP in English 1401 GMT 29 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Kuwait, March 29 (AFP)--South Yemeni President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il today said he was prepared to resign in favour of North Yemeni head of state 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih if this could facilitate union between the two countries, official sources said here.

Presidents Salih and Isma'il arrived yesterday for a series of talks to settle differences between their two states in the wake of recent border clashes. The summit talks which opened last night were resumed today.

This morning, North and South Yemeni foreign ministers respectively Husayn al-'Amri and Muhammed Salih Muti met to discuss normalisation of relations and reunification. Members of the Arab League watchdog committee--a body set up to implement a league peace plan for Yemen--will later join in the ministerial talks. Their recommendations will be put on the agenda of the summit.

KUWAIT

EGYPTIAN WORKERS ASSURED OF CONDITIONS

LD281426 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1259 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Today Kuwait assured Egyptians working here that their conditions will not be affected by the peace treaty signed by the Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat with Israel. The Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn said: "The sons of fraternal Egypt will remain as they have been the object of affection and welcome from their brethren and kin in Kuwait."

Asked by pressmen about possible repercussions against Egyptians working in the Arab countries as a result of the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, he said it "is absolutely without any basis." He added that the Baghdad summit conference held last November "made sure of stressing that Arab differences must not have any repercussions on the Arab peoples which are linked together by unbreakable firm links." The minister of state said that any situation harmful to the Egyptian people or the other Arab peoples "only serves the aims of the enemy of dismembering the Arab nation."

OMAN

U.S. RECONNAISSANCE, MONITORING SHIP VISITS QABUS

JN290925 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0812 GMT 29 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 29 March--Citing Omani sources the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS reports that a U.S. reconnaissance and monitoring ship recently visited Qabus port in the Sultanate of Oman for 2 days.

The paper adds that the captain of the ship held talks with the U.S. ambassador in Muscat. However, the paper declined to disclose the content of the talks.

The paper explains that the ship had the number "03" on its bow and that it was equipped with radar gear and huge antennas. It looked like an armored ship, and carried a helicopter on the rear deck.

SAUDI ARABIA

YAMANI INTERVIEWED ON OIL PRODUCTION, PRICES

AU281250 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1131 GMT 28 Mar 79 AU

[Barbara Coudenhove-Kalergi, Roland Machatschke report on interview with Saudi Arabian Petroleum Minister Shaykh Yamani at Schwechat Airport on 28 March--beginnings of Yamani answers in English, with German translation superimposed]

[Excerpt] [Question] Will the Saudis ask for surcharges on top of the jointly-fixed oil price?

[Answer] So far, our decision is not to impose any surcharge.

[Question] And will Saudi Arabia recover the level of production it had before the Iranian events?

[Answer] Our previous decision was to increase production only for the first quarter, which will end by the end of this month. If Iran raises its production again to a level acceptable for world oil consumption, then Saudi Arabia will curb its production--and other OPEC members which want to produce more, such as Nigeria and Iraq, will do so. But if Iran does not boost its production, then Saudi Arabia will keep up its increased production.

[Question] This price increase comes at a very ticklish moment in the Middle East negotiations; only recently the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt was concluded. Another question to Yamani: Will politics generally affect the OPEC countries decisions in fixing the surcharges on the oil price for the various members?

[Answer] Not at all. As a matter of fact, economically and financially there were good reasons for raising the price far more than we did yesterday. But it was not done. Thus I can assure you that political considerations have not entered into this.

[Question] And what does Yamani think, how will this latest oil price increase burdern the world economy?

[Answer] The price has already increased far more than what OPEC is now charging, and in the market a barrel of crude is frequently more than $20, up to $25, as against a new OPEC price of $14.54. The prices of [oil] products in many countries have gone up so much that the OPEC price is far below the market price. Thus the effect on the world economy will not be because OPEC has raised the oil price, but because of the oil shortage and because it--and here Yamani alludes to the Western industrialized world--has not done anything to reduce consumption.

[Question] How did the compromise that the OPEC states reached in the end come about? Was it difficult to find a compromise, and did Saudi Arabia play a restraining role in this?

[Answer] It was extremely difficult; we were about to reach a deadlock the night before yesterday. Then Saudi Arabia brought about the compromise. Let me tell you in all modesty, without Saudi Arabia the minimum price for 1 barrel of crude would now be $17.50--for your information, this would have been an increase by nearly 25 rather than 9 percent.

[Coudenhove-Kalergi] The Saudi Arabian petroleum minister will meet Chancellor Kreisky this afternoon, and will proceed tomorrow to Leoben to receive his honorary doctorate.

YAMANI SAYS SAUDIS WILL NOT 'PUNISH EGYPT'

AU282202 Vienna Domestic Television Service in German 2100 GMT 28 Mar 79 AU

[Ernst Werner Nussbaum interview with Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi petroleum minister, in Vienna on 28 March--recorded, in English fading into German translation]

[Text] [Question] OPEC has passed a price increase decision for oil totaling some 9 percent, but the member countries are free to attach higher surcharges to certain types. Is this the compromise between the attitude of Saudi Arabia and the other members who desire a higher price increase?

[Answer] Well, in reality OPEC did not raise the price of oil. It was the market forces that have increased it. When we convened for our conference in Geneva 2 days ago, the world market price for oil was much higher than our price. Many oil companies exploited the difference for their own benefit. There was a very heated debate within OPEC and finally we were able to achieve a compromise which has advanced the price increase that we had planned for the entire year from 1 October to 1 April. And I think some countries will be eager to obtain oil at the OPEC price rather than that of the oil companies.

[Question] Some oil states regard petroleum as a political weapon. What is Saudi Arabia's attitude in this respect?

[Answer] We do not look at it as a political weapon. I think that the oil price is first and foremost determined by the market. The oil price has been frozen and, properly speaking, this was a deterioration in the oil price. It actually decreased. Now it has increased as a result of the market forces. We have not decided this. It has increased as a result of the market forces. We have not decided this. It has increased as a result of supply and demand.

[Question] You referred to the political weapon which in Saudi Arabia's eyes should not be applied. But there is presently a conference of the Arab League being held in Baghdad at which measures against Egypt are to be decided upon. Will Saudi Arabia join such measures?

[Answer] Well, first of all oil will not be discussed in Baghdad. Secondly, it was decided at a summit conference in Baghdad that certain measures would be taken against Egypt if a separate peace between Egypt and Israel were to come about. Saudi Arabia will only adhere to this alone. But Saudi Arabia and several other Arab states will not punish Egypt. We cherish sympathy for the Egyptians; they are our brothers. We always regard Egypt as a member of the whole Arab community.

[Question] What is your assessment of the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel?

[Answer] Well, our studies show that this is not really the peace we are yearning for. Saudi Arabia desires a just peace in that area through which Arab territory will be returned and which helps the Palestinians to their legitimate rights. As long as this is not achieved we have no peace. A small portion of peace is no peace.

YAMANI CALLS FOR CUT IN OIL USE

AU282038 Vienna Domestic Television Service in German 1830 GMT 28 Mar 79 AU

[Guenter Schmidt interview with Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi petroleum minister, in Vienna on 28 March--recorded, in English fading into German translation]

[Text] This is what happened this afternoon in the Federal Chancellery: Shaykh Yamani met Federal Chancellor Kreisky. The two politicians first conducted a 1-hour private talk, then subsequently other politicians from the economic sector were called in: Yamani's deputy and on the Austrian side Vice Chancellor Androsch, Trade Minister Staribacher and State Secretary Nussbaumer. Subsequently Yamani detailed prospects for Saudi investment in Austria. Regarding the international oil situation, Yamani warned that the price will soon rise again unless measures are undertaken in the West to save oil.

[Yamani] If you Westerners do your best to cut your consumption and if the Iranians return to full production again and if nothing happens in Iraq, then I do not expect any further price increases for oil this year. If you do very little and if the West, first and foremost the United States, continues consuming oil as previously, then you must be ready for another increase. [end recording]

[Question] The International Energy Agency, of which Austria is also a member, has suggested an oil savings of 5 percent this year. Is this sufficient?

[Answer] This is the least you can do. This only saves 2 million barrels of oil a day. I think you should save more. But I know that it is politically difficult to request the public to change its life style and drastically reduce oil consumption.

[Question] Since the raid on OPEC 3 years ago, Yamani has given a wide berth to Vienna. Now that the spell has been broken, will Yamani show up more frequently again, also to attend OPEC meetings?

[Answer] This is my hope. I love this city and I admire the great Austrian nation. I am glad to be here again and am looking forward to my future visits.

'UKAZ: OIL POLICY NOT AIMED AT INCREASING PRICES

ID280941 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 25 Mar 79 p 1 ID

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] The Saudi Arabian Kingdom adheres to a clear and firm political line toward the present international conditions and in reacting to them.

Oil has been one of the important international issues in human relationships. Our country has defined its stand on the basis of its wealth in terms of this international commodity and has committed itself to serving the world economy out of its belief in the need to secure economic prosperity for mankind.

His Excellency Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani confirmed this when he stated that, despite present conditions, our oil policy is not aimed at increasing oil prices or at trying to adopt at tomorrow's OPEC meeting an attitude which would lead to increasing these prices.

However, this attitude, to which we are committed and which has been further confirmed by Shaykh Zaki Yamani, cannot by any means prevent the interacting and interlinked economic factors from affecting oil prices and their increase as a result of the current supply and demand situation on the oil market. This is because, despite our commitment in which we believe and according to which we act, we cannot influence changes resulting from the shortage of supply in the face of increasing demand and the effects the relations between the two have on increasing prices.

This was the fact that prompted our petroleum minister to say that prices will increase not as a result of the policies that the forthcoming OPEC meeting will adopt but rather because of the effects of the availability of oil as an international commodity on economic conditions over which we have no control.

It appears that the measures now required, in order to prevent a price increase as a result of the situation which His Excellency Shaykh Yamani explained, are to exercise direct control over the quantities of oil available in the international market, particularly since the shortage of supply has come about as a result of internal political conditions in Iran. The producing countries cannot at present bridge this gap in production, and consequently there is a supply shortfall, since the group of producing countries are committed to production levels which they cannot exceed except after extensive economic studies to establish the cost-effectiveness of production in the light of several changing international economic factors.

Therefore, the required increase in supply to meet increase in demand increasingly demands a search for new and unexploited resources.

UAE

SUPREME COUNCIL AFFIRMS ADHERENCE TO BAGHDAD SUMMIT

JN281456 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1430 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

["Text" of UAE Supreme Council statement issued in Abu Dhabi on 28 March]

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 28 March--The UAE announced here today its extreme dissatisfaction and deep concern regarding the results that will ensue from the separate peace agreement between Egypt and Israel. The UAE affirmed its adherence and commitments to what the Arab nation has agreed upon in the Arab summit conferences, including the Baghdad summit conference.

This came in a statement by the UAE Supreme Council made by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz Hamid al-Qasimi, minister of state for Supreme Council affairs, at the end of the UAE Supreme Council meeting.

The text of the UAE Supreme Council statement is as follows: At this meeting, the Supreme Council reviewed the country's foreign policy in light of current events in the area and current Arab and international developments in the wake of the signing of the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel.

The Supreme Council expresses its extreme dissatisfaction and deep concern regarding the grave consequences that will ensue from this agreement and its direct repercussions on the unity of Arab ranks.

The UAE has always determinedly sought to bring about Arab solidarity, in support of the Arab issues and in confrontation with the Arab nation's enemies. It has declared its firm stand; that the establishment of peace in the Middle East depends upon Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories; the liberation of Arab Jerusalem and the Islamic holy places; the finding of a comprehensive settlement to the Palestinian people's issue, as it is the core of the Middle East problem; and support by which the Palestinian people can regain their legitimate rights, return to their homeland, determine their fate and regain their sovereignty over their national soil, so that the just and lasting peace to which the people of the area aspire can be established.

The UAE proclaims its adherence and commitment to what the Arab nation unanimously agreed upon in the Arab summit conferences, including the Baghdad summit conference.

YEMEN--YAR

PRESIDENT SALIH MAKES STATEMENT BEFORE LEAVING FOR KUWAIT

JN281413 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Excerpt] Before leaving for Kuwait, President Salih made a press statement at San'a' airport. Addressing representatives of local, Arab and world news agencies, President Salih said: I am very optimistic and confident that my meeting with the president of the southern part of the homeland will end in the positive results that are anticipated by every single Yemeni. These are, primarily, the consideration of Yemeni interests, the issue of Yemeni unity and the continuation of the serious brotherly dialog for accomplishing this unity within the framework of the Cairo agreement and the Tripoli statement, as well as the Arab League Council's recent resolutions issued during its recent urgent session.

President Salih added: Today's meeting in Kuwait is intended to implement those resolutions, which provide for eliminating all reasons and causes of disagreement and anything else that might spark war and waste our noble Yemeni blood.

President leader 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih stressed that it has become necessary and important that all of us, as sons of one people, meet for dialog so that we can implement the will of the Arab and Muslim Yemeni people in the northern and southern parts of the homeland and accomplish their unity aims, which we believe will be their inevitable and eventual destiny. President Salih said: The implementation of this goal, which is considered the most important to our people's immortal revolution, will continue to be the people's most persistent demand, a revolutionary goal and an ultimate necessity. Therefore, we as leaders must devote all our efforts to expedite the accomplishment of this goal.

Although the YAR has taken long strides on the path of development, we still believe that through unity we will be able to accomplish further achievements for our Yemeni people within an atmosphere of love, optimism and cooperation, the prerequisite for securing economic, cultural and social integration.

Hence, we will proceed with our unity, which is the substance of our civilized existence and our power, in order to defend our liberty and independence and to preserve our beliefs and national sovereignty.

President Salih added: This meeting will stress that there will be absolutely no return to Yemeni bloodshed. We confirm our close interest in and concern to avoid repetition of the recent events and to foil all enemies and hostile conspiracies. There is no doubt that this meeting will participate in bolstering Arab solidarity and cooperation and will mark an important step in the effort to strengthen the Arab nation, particularly given the current critical circumstances.

In conclusion, President Salih extended his gratitude and appreciation for all the sincere Arab efforts and mediations aimed at eliminating all factors and causes of disagreement and conflict between sons of the one Yemeni people.

AS-SADAT HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON 28 MARCH

NC282050 Cairo MENA in English 1910 GMT 28 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Washington, March 28--(MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat affirmed today that only the Palestinians have the right to achieve their self-determination, adding that the talks which will open next month on the autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip will not decide the destiny of the Palestinians but will lead them to the right path.

In answer to a query on the steps taken to encourage the Palestinians to join the forthcoming negotiations, President as-Sadat said that he dispatched messages to Arab kings and heads of state, adding that he would do his best for this purpose.

Meantime, President as-Sadat asserted that the time is ripe for the Israelis to understand the facts of the area as it is impossible for them to live without solving the Palestinian problem.

During the press conference the president held today with editors and prominent political commentators and representatives of radio and television networks, the president confirmed that Egypt considers the presence of the Israeli settlement in the West Bank as illegal and that Egypt will not allow its presence. President as-Sadat said that the visit of Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin to Egypt will take place on Monday, adding that no change has been made.

The president said that he will leave Washington this evening on his way to West Germany where he will stay up to Saturday.

Immediately after my return home, I will forward up the peace treaty to the People's Assembly, added the president. On the future of the Egyptian-Saudi relations in the light of the recent developments, President as-Sadat said that Egypt's relations with Saudi Arabia differ from Egypt's relations with any other Arab country, adding that it [words indistinct] so with special dimensions. President as-Sadat also said that whatever the results of the Baghdad conference will be, we will not return back.

Commenting on Israel's recent gesture by releasing political prisoners as well as lessening restrictions imposed on political activities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the president said that the gesture is a first step in the peace process in the area and that it is undoubtedly encouraging for the achievement of a durable peace in the area.

The president further said that the gesture that included the reunification of Palestinian families will be an encouraging factor for the Palestinians, adding that the statement by Prime Minister Begin over the last six months were unencouraging.

Commenting on President Carter's recent statement on the possibility of initiating contacts between the U.S. administration and the Palestinian Liberation Organization on condition that the PLO recognizes the Security Council Resolution No. 242 as well as recognizing Israel's right to exist, the president said:

I have said before that 99 percent of the cards are in the hands of the United States adding that [words indistinct; a report on this press conference carried by Cairo MENA in Arabic at 1810 GMT on 28 March provides the following at this point: "United States. He added: When I met Carter, even before my initiative, he said to me: I do not agree with you on this. I said: Maybe 99 percent is incorrect and maybe it is only 98 percent. But I believe it is important that the Palestinians contact the United States because it is the only state that can do something."] the only party that can do something. President as-Sadat expressed his conviction that the coming six months will witness actions to this effect.

Asked whether there was any possibility of military cooperation among Egypt, the United States and Israel, President as-Sadat answered: I don't see any possibility of such alliance at all. We don't need such an alliance. We don't accept any alliance except with the Arab countries.

The president added: I don't believe in the so-called political vacuum or the policeman. I will not allow any alliance with Israel. We don't need any one to protect us or to fight our battles for us.

Asked about Egypt's attitude on the Iranian revolution, President as-Sadat said: We are not against the Iranian revolution or Khomeyni or anything that took place there. This is their own business. A difference took place when the shah visited me and I invited him to stay in Egypt. The man had stood by us, and our traditions and morals called on us to host the shah in Egypt, but this does not mean that I am against Iran or the Iranian revolution.

About the Arab rejection front, President as-Sadat said: Most Arab leaders, not only their peoples, want peace, but they cannot bring themselves to take this stand, but I believe that a change will take place in the near future.

On the situation in Lebanon, President as-Sadat said Syria, following the Saudi forces withdrawal, would be obliged to do the same. He said the position of President Hafiz al-Asad in Syria is bad and that with the return of his forces the first change in the area would be in Syria.

Referring to the Carter plan for economic aid to Egypt, President as-Sadat said: We are still discussing that with your administration. Top priorities to us are food, housing and infrastructure. I met American businessmen yesterday and believe that their reaction was favourable.

President as-Sadat pointed out that what he asks for is not grants but partnership. True, we have difficulties in our balance of payments but the fact remains that Egypt has enormous resources still untapped. We have water, land and gas and no energy problems. In 1982 our oil production would hit the one million mark. In brief, we have great resources but we need good planning and technology.

Asked what the position would be if the Arab states cut off their aid of Egypt and if he expected the United States would make up for such aid, President as-Sadat said: I am not imposing on you and would not throw the whole weight on your shoulders, but this is your responsibility and we also should depend on ourselves. As I said in Congress yesterday, I do not ask for loans or aid but for partnership.

In this context the president said the World Bank and International Monetary Fund reports which came up at his yesterday's meeting with Robert McNamara were favorable.

Asked to comment on Israeli Premier Menahem Begin's declarations on Israel's stand towards the West Bank which he insists on calling Judaea and Samaria, President as-Sadat said Begin had made many statements in that sense but he will sit together and start negotiations as we did sixteen months ago. I hope there will be many changes and that the peace treaty will have wide-ranging repercussions.

President as-Sadat said he would do his utmost to encourage Palestinians to join the upcoming conversations. He recalled that under the terms of the Camp David agreements the Egyptian delegation can include Palestinians.

On this point, the president said that only the Palestinians will decide the fate of the Palestinians. Neither I nor King Husayn has the right to do so. Negotiations toward full autonomy will start after one month but they will not determine the future of the Palestinians. They will only see them on the proper course. After that they will have to determine their future and may join King Husayn or follow a different course.

Concluding President as-Sadat said in his relations with the United States he depended on the American public opinion and the Congress. He said he believed providence had sent President Carter at this time in particular. Carter, he said, had changed the image of America from one of a policeman into a peacemaker. He affirmed that without President Carter's honesty and consistency the peace treaty could not have materialised.

Remarks on Libyan Moves

NC282107 Cairo MENA in English 2050 GMT 28 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Washington, March 28--(MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat told a press conference here today that he believes the Soviet Union is behind the movements of the Libyan Army on Egypt's border.

We have discovered that a number of Syrian planes have been transferred to Libya, he added.

The Egyptian president said there was activity on the part of the Libyan Armed Forces on Egypt's border, but nothing more has taken place.

In answer to a question as to whether he expected the Libyan Army moves would lead to an attack on Libya, the president said: I don't believe I will repeat the lesson of 1976. Why should I launch war against Libya? We don't need land or dollars. We have both of them now.

The president added: But if the Soviet Union is helping that, it will have to bear the consequences.

President as-Sadat said that he told former U.S. President Gerald Ford in Strassburg in 1975 about the aims which the Soviet Union was trying to achieve by means of huge arms deals with Libya, for which Colonel ad-Qadhdhafi paid eight hundred million dollars at the time as an advance part payment.

Nobody believed me at the time, he added, but here is Al-Qadhdhafi moving his forces now with the aid of Cubans and East Germans.

MORE ON AS-SADAT NEWS CONFERENCE WITH ISRAELI JOURNALISTS

TA282047 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 28 Mar 79 TA

[Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat answers questions from Israeli correspondents at the Egyptian Embassy in Washington on 27 March, questions and answers in English--videotaped]

[Excerpt] [Rosenfeld] Could you tell us where the Egyptian Embassy in Israel will be located?

[As-Sadat] If this--I mean, if you mean that it shall be located in Jerusalem before solving the problem of Jerusalem, you are wrong.

[Rosenfeld] Thank you, Mr President.

[Zayt] My name is Me'ir Zayt, VIATA NOASTRA [Romanian-language daily] in Tel Aviv. Mr President, now, after the signing of the peace treaty, is there any hope that the policy of Egypt in the United Nations, the Council of Security and the other institutions of the United Nations will be changing towards Israel?

[As-Sadat] According to the treaty and to the framework, also, of Camp David, we shall do our best to fulfill the spirit of Camp David and the treaty and my initiative. The spirit is: we must live in an atmosphere of good neighbors, and good neighbors doesn't at all mean that whenever Israel is wrong I cannot vote against Israel in the United Nations. Whenever they are wrong I am going to tell them: You are wrong. I am doing the same thing with the United States. Whenever the United States is wrong, I am telling them quite openly: You are wrong. Whenever you are wrong we shall say it in the United Nations or in any other place.

[Zayt] Thank you, Mr President.

[Nathan] Mr President, Abie Nathan from the Voice of Peace Radio. Do you have any plans for any intensive lobbying between the other Arab countries to try and bring them to join you in your campaign? Who do you think will be the first country that would come and what can Israel do to bring others to join in the peace treaty with us? The second part of the question, I asked you also in Jerusalem and in Ismailia: Now that you and Prime Minister Begin have got together, what can we do to bring our people together? In cultural exchanges, how can we be involved? And as I asked you previously, when are we going to play the first football game in Tel Aviv? [laughter]

[As-Sadat] The first part please, repeat please the first part.

[Nathan] The first part is: Do you have any plans to make some intensive diplomatic lobbying among Arab countries? Who do you think will be the first to join?

[As-Sadat] For sure I shall be doing this in the near future. As a matter of fact, we have started it really when I sent the vice president to meet with my colleague Numayri and King Khalid. After that, we shall do our best because we are after a comprehensive settlement and not a separate agreement like they are now telling the whole world.

And maybe you don't know that the separate agreement terminology was invented in the first place by the Soviets. And I had a talk with Gromyko in Cairo; he visited with me and I spent 4 precious hours with him and I was really telling him about this terminology--I mean this phraseology--that they introduced into the area for the parrots to repeat. We are after a comprehensive peace agreement. We shall do our best. You asked me who will come first. As I said before, Al-'Arish is ready. Al-'Arish will be ready always. I shall declare this from my National Assembly whenever I am going to submit the treaty for the approval by the deputies. I shall declare that Al-'Arish will be ready, and if anyone chooses to come secretly we shall do our best to satisfy him. Who will come first? I don't know; God knows probably who will come first.

[Nathan] The second part of the question: Can you possibly now start encouraging cultural relations--exchange of artists, newsmen and sportsmen from both countries?

[As-Sadat] I think it will be quite natural whenever we exchange ambassadors. It will be quite natural.

[Nathan] Thank you, Mr President.

[Man] Mr President, Rafi Man from Galei Zahal, IDF Radio, Israel.

[As-Sadat] All those from the television and newspapers, what are you creating there in Israel? (laughter)

[Man] Mr President, now after the peace treaty was signed, could you tell us please how did you find Prime Minister Begin as your partner to the negotiations through those 16 months?

[As-Sadat] Well, let me tell you this: There is a fact, we have lost 16 months. Why? I don't know. Sixteen precious months. Now, if everything had gone true to the spirit of my initiative, months before the Israeli ambassador would have been in Cairo and the Egyptian ambassador would have been there in Tel Aviv. Well, let me hope that in the next phase--and as I stated before, maybe you have heard me--I have always stated that the signing in itself is not the climax at all. The whole peace process and the real test starts after the signing. Well, we have signed yesterday. It was a great day. And let me hope that a new style can prevail in the room where we are going to sit together, either in Al-'Arish or in Beersheba, a new style prevails so that we will not lose any more time than it is necessary--that we shall satisfy the two peoples--the Egyptians and the Israelis--and when I mentioned the Israelis I am always mentioning the Israeli mother.

[Landau] Mr President, David Landau from the Jerusalem POST.

[As-Sadat] Ah.

[Landau] Mr President, yesterday...

[As-Sadat] We met in Salzburg. [laughter] First in Aswan, but Salzburg was after that.

[Landau] In your speech yesterday you paid tribute to hundreds of thousands of Israelis who remained unwavering in their commitment to peace. What, Mr President, is your assessment of the role of the Peace Now Movement in Israel during these 16 months?

[As-Sadat] The Peace Now Movement--I welcomed it. But it doesn't mean at all that I am in contact with them, and what I said yesterday will always mean, like I said before as I told you now--it was in [name indistinct] or in Cairo, when I was asked after the Knesset voted--and I said it is okay, yes I know, I know it will come; even I have ordered certain measures to be taken 2 or 3 months before when everyone lost hope. No I didn't lose hope at all. I was optimistic and I still am and I shall continue to be optimistic. Whenever I say those who will not waiver in Israel and when I was told about the Knesset I told the reporters: Yes, I anticipated this and it is marvelous and I know it was coming because I have an ally in Israel. Well, all of them were alarmed. They thought I am having a fifth column or so [laughter] inside Israel. I told them, my ally is the Israeli mother. Those whom I mentioned here in the thousands mainly. But the Peace Now, it is okay, yes. And there are also lots of officials and nonofficials with the peace movement, but still the main core will always be the Israeli mother. I saw her and it is because also the same thing happens in Cairo and the Egyptian mother holds the same sentiment.

[Barqay] Mr President, I represent DAVAR, Israel's labor daily. Do you envisage, please, a possibility of political cooperation between Egypt and Israel in the international arena, in the United Nations or vis-a-vis other parts of the world?

[As-Sadat] I think we should wait until we start the normalization, exchanging ambassadors and so on after the first phase of withdrawal, and then there will be room for this. But let me tell you, whenever Israel is wrong we shall say yes, you are wrong, and if need be to vote against anything wrong in the United Nations. I said it before and I am not adopting this attitude for Israel, no. If the United States is wrong I shall be saying: You are wrong--and I shall be voting against.

[Moderator] Thank you very much.

AS-SADAT SENDS CABLE TO VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK

NC282022 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 Mar 79 NC

[Cable from Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat to Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak--read by announcer]

[Text] I have received with thanks and gratitude your kind cable conveying your heartfelt congratulations to me on the peace treaty, which has heralded a new dawn of hope over a region which has been engulfed in a dark night of wars and destruction over the past 30 years.

The Arab people of Egypt, from whose land a river of human civilization has flowed to other peoples around them, out of their faith in man's right to a free and dignified life, have shattered the barriers of prejudice, fear and hatred. They shattered these barriers after they shattered myths and illusions during the great Ramadan so that the flowers of love and peace would grow and so that man would live, worship God and build life.

Our great people, who are a part of the glorious Arab nation, have defended every Arab right throughout their long history and in every Islamic shrine. In their civilized struggle today to achieve the national goals of their nation and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, they will only listen to the voice of logic and wisdom. Convulsive voices will not divert them from their national and pan-Arab struggle, because these voices will be dispersed and forgetten by history.

I am confident that the Arab people of Egypt, who have granted me love and support such as I never imagined, will pursue the long course to achieve the goals of their glorious Arab nation and reshape life on their land with their free will. "And unto God leads straight the way." [Koran verse]

[Signed] Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat.

AS-SADAT TALKS TO EGYPTIANS COMMUNITY IN WASHINGTON

NC290627 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 29 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Last night President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat met in Washington with the Egyptian community and Egyptian scholars in the United States. The president spoke about the role of Egyptian scholars and scientists in building their country. He also talked about the political life in Egypt before the revolution, the May 1971 corrective revolution and his initiative which ended in the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

President as-Sadat also spoke about the democratic atmosphere now prevailing in Egypt and about opinion and opposing opinion. President as-Sadat said that democratic life in Egypt will be firmly established. We will only be content when a rights declaration is announced, after the discussions which will be held in April and May. All citizens in Egypt will debate these matters in order to correct the course of our country.

The president added: We will discuss the treaty at the People's Assembly on Monday. The assembly will have the right at that time to accept or reject the treaty, which will then be submitted to a referendum. If the People's Assembly does not approve this treaty, it will never become effective.

The president went on: The declaration of rights will be issued in May. Speaking about the treaty, the president said that there were two basic principles: no encroachment on the land or the sovereignty of Egypt.

Regarding the Egyptian Armed Forces, the president said: We concluded an arms deal with the United States in the last few days. We will equip our armed forces with the most modern weapons. These forces are ready to defend Egypt. All the world is now backing Egypt.

Regarding the Arab boycott of Egypt, the president emphasized that it is Egypt which isolates and it cannot be isolated. He added that he does not want to subject the fate of the Egyptian people to any emotions.

In conclusion, the president said: Although we are passing through a critical stage in our life, we have the material and moral potentials which sustain us. After the peace treaty, we will now move to the horizons of a new dawn.

As-Sadat Goes to Bonn

NC291100 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 29 Mar 79 NC

[Excerpt] Bonn, 29 March--President Anwar as-Sadat arrived in Bonn from Washington this morning for a 3-day visit to the FRG.

President as-Sadat will proceed by helicopter to the office of the FRG president where he will be met by German President Walter Scheel.

DEFENSE MINISTER 'ALI ON U.S. WEAPONS TO EGYPT

NC291035 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 29 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Defense Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali said today that the U.S. Government has agreed to supply Egypt with warplanes, warships, missiles and a sophisticated air defense system.

The defense minister added that the new U.S. weapons to Egypt include F-4 jet fighters, Hawk missiles, destroyers and other warships. Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that he reached an agreement on this during his recent discussions with U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown in Washington and that this agreement will be submitted to Congress for approval as soon as possible.

NDP HOLDS CAIRO RALLY IN SUPPORT OF PEACE TREATY

NC281640 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Mar 79 NC

[Text] At a rally held today the political, popular and executive leaders in Cairo Governorate declared their absolute support for President as-Sadat and the peace treaty and announced that they stand in one rank behind his leadership along the path of peace, democracy and prosperity. The rally was attended by National Democratic Party [NDP] Secretary and Deputy Prime Minister Fikri Makram 'Ubayd, members of the NDP Secretariat General and the governor of Cairo.

At the beginning of the rally, 'Abd al-Latif Bultiyah, the NDP secretary for Cairo Governorate, affirmed that the reception the Egyptian people will accord President as-Sadat on his return home will be tantamount to a public plebiscite telling the entire world that they support President as-Sadat and that they give him their confidence and support such as they have given no other leader before.

NDP Secretary General Fikri Makram 'Ubayd explained Egypt's struggle for the Palestinian cause and the dimensions of the peace treaty. He said that if the Egyptian people have signed this treaty, they have signed it in the interest of Egypt and the whole Arab nation, and the Palestinian people in particular, since Palestine is dear to Egypt despite the rejectionists and their agents. He noted that Egypt and President as-Sadat sacrificed hundreds of times more than any other Arab leader has sacrificed. It is enough to say that Egypt sacrificed thousands of martyrs and spent 40 billion pounds for the Arab cause. Had this amount of money been spent on Egyptian towns and villages, they would have reached a standard of development equal to that of other modern towns and villages. This is at a time when the rejectionists have done nothing except to issue nervous statements.

Explaining the dimensions of the peace treaty, Fikri Makram 'Ubayd said there would be no relinquishment of Arab sovereignty, no relinquishment of Jerusalem and no relinquishment of the Palestinian people's rights. The peace agreement, he said, is not a separate peace but a comprehensive peace encompassing all the occupied Arab territories, including the West Bank and Jerusalem. Israel does not enjoy any preferential status under the treaty; nor does the peace treaty take any precedence over Egypt's Arab obligations.

The governor of Cairo, Sa'd Ma'mun, addressed a message of appreciation and greetings to the Egyptian people, who have endured four wars for the sake of the Palestinian cause in 30 years.

Beginning today, seminars and public rallies will be held in the various governorates to explain the achievements of the peace treaty and its advantages to Egypt and the Arab nation.

Processions in Support of As-Sadat

NC282118 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 Mar 79 NC

[Excerpts] Mammoth popular processions were staged in the various governorates of the republic today. All the communities, organizations and the executive, popular and political leaders participated in them to reaffirm allegiance and support for President Anwar as-Sadat, the hero of comprehensive and just peace.

An expanded meeting was held today at the office of the Ad-Daqahliyah Governorate attended by Ad-Daqahliyah Governor Maj Gen Sa'd ash-Sharbini, Minister of Education and Culture Dr Hasan Isma'il, Minister of Agrarian Reform Eng Tawfiq Kararah, Minister of Electricity Eng Mustafa Kamal Sabri, members of the local council and the political and popular leaders in the governorate.

The governor of Ad-Daqahliyah delivered a speech in which he lauded the peace treaty, saying it is the culmination of a long hard struggle and a victory for the entire Arab nation. The minister of education also met with the members of the teaching staff and the students union in Al-Mansurah. He explained to them the dimensions of the political situation and the efforts required in the coming period. He urged the university students to confront the attempts aimed at undermining the security and safety of the homeland.

In Port Said, the population of the town staged a huge procession today in jubilation over the signing of the peace treaty.

In Al-Qalyubiyah Governorate, processions were staged in Banha in which slogans were shouted cheering the president.

In Aswan, popular processions were staged during which the population of the governorate reaffirmed their allegiance and support for President as-Sadat.

The Egyptian masses today began erecting arches of triumph in the main squares and streets in preparation for receiving the hero president on his return to Cairo.

AL-AKHBAR COMMENTS ON DIVISION AT BAGHDAD MEETING

NC290826 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 29 Mar 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the division at the Baghdad meeting, AL-AKHBAR today says: It appears that at the Baghdad meeting opinions are divided on the sanctions which the rejectionist group want imposed on Egypt because it signed the peace treaty. This division started as soon as the conference began. This is why there have been several meetings, long discussions and various proposals. However, the conferees were unable to bridge this division or close the gaps. To cover up this division and to save the meeting from failure, Iraq proposed that the conferring ministers call an Arab summit because the situation in which the Arab nation finds itself requires such a meeting.

It appears that also this proposal became a subject of disagreement. This disagreement was resolved by agreeing to a so-called economic summit conference. However, Yasir 'Arafat announced his withdrawal from the conference, as did the delegations of Libya and Syria.

The paper refers to political commentators' interpretation of the decision to call an economic summit as definite proof of the division of opinion trends between the rejectionists--who represent the main base of the rejection--and the moderates, who consider matters in a factual manner and represent the economic interests with Egypt.

AL-AKHBAR says: the rejectionists moved, or were instigated by the Soviets, to act against Egypt and impose sanctions for signing the peace treaty. Their object was to impose economic sanctions and to boycott Egypt. However, the Baghdad meeting was unable to do this. The rejectionists discovered that this was beyond their methods and tricks. Therefore, the rejectionists tried to disguise their position and proposed what they termed as economic summit meeting.

KHALIL INTERVIEWED ON EFFECTS OF TREATY WITH ISRAEL

LD281411 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 Mar 79 p 3 LD

[Interview given by Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT correspondent in Cairo--date not given]

[Text] [Question] The Egyptian People's Assembly did not debate the peace treaty, while the Israeli Knesset did. What are the reasons?

[Answer] This is due to the difference in nature between the Egyptian regime and the Israeli regime. The Egyptian regime is presidential, while the Israeli is parliamentarian. The president there has only token power, and therefore it is wrong to compare the two regimes in view of their different nature. But the Egyptian assembly's endorsement of the treaty is necessary in order to make it effective. Therefore, following the Egyptian delegation's return from the United States, the whole treaty will be put to the People's Assembly for its approval in accordance with the constitutional provisions, and there will be an extensive debate on it.

[Question] Obviously the majority of the Arab countries oppose the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. What is the Egyptian people's attitude toward it?

[Answer] I believe that the Egyptian people support the peace treaty with Israel for the following reasons:

1. The treaty will lead to Israeli withdrawal to Egypt's international boundaries; that is, Egypt will restore all its occupied territories.

2. The withdrawal will not result in any advantages for Israel in Egypt, either in terms of Sinai oil or in relations with it. Rather, relations with Israel will be the same as with other countries.

3. The peace treaty is not a separate peace between Egypt and Israel. Rather, it represents the road to a comprehensive solution, the first step in which is full autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza.

4. The treaty will enable the Egyptian people to devote themselves more to building their country, without forgetting their Arab cause.

With regard to the Arab countries that reject the peace treaty, this is not my concern. Ask them the reasons.

[Question] Supposing that the negotiations with Israel on granting full autonomy to the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza fail because of Israel's intransigence: What will the situation be?

[Answer] I do not wish to assume this in advance. The negotiations on concluding a peace treaty with Israel were on the verge of failure several times, but in the end they succeeded. We expect the same thing to happen regarding the negotiations on autonomy. What is important is that we will not allow the treaty between Egypt and Israel to be a bilateral treaty. Indeed, we want it to be the path to a comprehensive solution.

[Question] It is feared that U.S. influence in the area, particularly in Egypt, will increase because the United States has settled the dispute between Egypt and Israel and has the major credit for the conclusion of the peace treaty.

[Answer] The United States did not bring about the settlement, but rather has the major credit for bringing the Egyptian and Israeli views closer. Therefore, it has imposed no solution on us. We have publicly said no to anything leading to U.S. influence; no to U.S. bases, or experts or trainers; no to weapons or anything else on our territory that might prejudice our independence. From where, then, will the U.S. influence come?

[Question] Some people are afraid of Israel's economic domination of Egypt. They say that the Jews are business people whereas the Egyptians, since ancient times, have been known as agricultural people. Incidentally, when will the economic relations between Egypt and Israel begin?

[Answer] I am not afraid of this domination which some people imagine, because nothing can be done in Egypt without the government's approval. Any Israeli economic project must first be approved. Thank God, we are in control of our will and have the full freedom to make decisions with our own will. One month after the first withdrawal and for a period of 6 months, negotiations will take place with Israel in order to normalize relations with it, including economic relations. Therefore, economic relations will not begin before next year.

[Question] Those who oppose the Egyptian-Israeli treaty base their opposition on the claim that Egypt has given Israel complete peace while Israel is not committed to withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories or to giving the Palestinian people their full rights. What is your answer to this?

[Answer] My view on this matter in particular is summed up as follows:

1. Israel is first committed to withdrawal from all the Egyptian territories, which in itself is a great gain because Egyptian territories are part of Arab territories.

2. Egypt has declared more than once that what applies to Sinai must necessarily apply to the Golan Heights and the occupied West Bank of the Jordan.

3. Israel must abide by 1967 Security Council Resolution 242 that provides for the inadmissibility of occupying land by force and for withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

[Question] Some people fear that Egypt and Israel will try to impose a settlement on the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza, especially if Egypt replaces Jordan in the negotiations if the latter refuses to negotiate on autonomy. What is your opinion on this?

[Answer] Such a fear is absolutely unjustifiable. Egypt will not try to impose any settlement on the inhabitants of the occupied territories, but rather will leave them the full freedom to choose what they want. The opposite is true. There is a status quo imposed on them in the form of an Israeli occupation, and Egypt is trying to liquidate that occupation by achieving first autonomy and, second, full independence later.

[Question] What will happen after the break in relations between Egypt and the PLO?

[Answer] Egypt did not break its relations with the PLO. Rather, it was the latter that did so. A major role awaits the PLO--that is, if it so wishes--in the coming settlement, both in the negotiations and in the elections to be held.

[Question] Some of the Arab countries are threatening to impose economic sanctions on Egypt and to transfer the Arab League headquarters elsewhere if it signs a peace treaty with Israel. What will Egypt's answer be in this case?

[Answer] I would not wish to assume this in advance. I hope that common sense will eventially prevail. We are watching the situation calmly, and to every action there will be an equal reaction. We do not base our decisions on anger and emotions.

KUWAIT PAPER REPORTS IRAQI MILITARY SUPPORT FOR JORDAN

NC291135 Doha QNA in Arabic 1117 GMT 29 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 29 March--In a report datelined Baghdad and quoting a Jordanian official source, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS today reports that Iraq has expressed its readiness to send Iraqi forces to the eastern front, specifically to the Jordanian front.

Quoting this source, the paper says that Iraq has affirmed its determination to supply Jordan with large quantities of arms, in addition to economic and material support.

ATH-THAWRAH WARNS AGAINST FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT RESOLUTIONS

JN290804 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0620 GMT 29 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 29 March--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH says in an article today that Iraq is eager to make the unity of Arab ranks a means to serve the Arab nation and protect its dignity.

ATH-THAWRAH adds that Iraq will not tolerate any Arab side which fails to genuinely, faithfully, and accurately commit itself to the Baghdad summit resolutions. These resolutions represent only the minimum, and Iraq will regard as a traitor any Arab side which fails to commit itself to them.

ATH-THAWRAH says: There are some who are trying to use the unity of Arab ranks as a guise to harm the Arab nation and allow the plots to be implemented against us. It is our duty to expel these people from our ranks so they can join the ranks of the traitors. These traitors will be made to account for their actions.

ATH-THAWRAH explains: During the talks which a delegation of the factions of the Palestinian resistance movement held with a delegation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, a diagnosis was made of the dangers resulting from As-Sadat signing the document of treason and shame. The two delegations also discussed ways to effectively confront, resist and foil this treason.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: The two delegations reached complete agreement on applying decisive revolutionary political measures not only against As-Sadat, but against all those who support him, express sympathy with him or supply him with any sort of aid, and against anyone who fails to commit himself to the Baghdad summit resolutions, which represent the minimum and the point dividing treason from patriotism.

ATH-THAWRAH continues: The two delegations regarded this phase as decisive in the life of the Arab nation. Any failure by the Arab masses or their nationalist and revolutionary forces to act against treason and those supporting it will increase the dangers facing the Arab nation as a result of the signing of the treaty of humiliation.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: The revolutionary and progressive forces feel that they are dutybound to pool all their resources and use all available means to protect the Arab nation against the dangers facing it. The masters of the traitors cannot protect themselves or their interests by buying off a traitor or an agent.

The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH, organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, calls for applying the slogan "Everything for the sake of the national battle and comprehensive confrontation." The paper calls on the Arabs to utilize their material, economic and military resources in the service of the one fateful Arab battle.

ATH-THAWRAH says: In the aftermath of As-Sadat's implementation of his ugly crime, the Arab countries have the domestic and pan-Arab duty to take action stronger than the minimum officially approved by the Baghdad summit. This requires the Arab countries to pool their resources and capabilities to deter treason and confront As-Sadat's crime and the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy. ATH-THAWRAH concludes: The great Arab nation realizes that the reply to As-Sadat cannot take place in the form of speeches, statements and cries of denunciation, but must take place in the form of pooling all the resources of the people and mobilizing all the capabilities of the Arab nation for use in the fateful battle and in confronting the enemies.

PALESTINIAN LEADER HAWATIMAH LEAVES BAGHDAD

JN282008 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1940 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 March--The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine delegation led by the front's secretary general, Nayif Hawatimah, left Baghdad this evening at the end of a visit to Iraq as part of a Palestinian resistance delegation. In a statement to INA before his departure, Hawatimah said that the delegation's talks with Arab Socialist Ba'th Party officials were characterized by objectivity, frankness and [word indistinct] along the road of agreeing on a joint program for struggle in the same trench against our nation's common enemy, represented by U.S. imperialism and the Zionist enemy. He said the national Arab criterion for the struggle to defeat the treasonous deal between the enemy and As-Sadat's regime is the boycotting of this traitorous regime and its master, U.S. imperialism, and striking at and liquidating all imperialism's monopolistic and other interests throughout the Arab homeland.

Assessing the Iraqi-Syrian Charter of Joint National Action, Hawatimah said that this historic and qualitative step is capable of giving a great impetus to the movement for Arab steadfastness, liberation and national awakening along the road of building a solid and organized mass front opposing treason and traitors.

Ghawshah Departure

JN291207 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 29 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 29 March--The delegation of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front led by Dr Samir Ghawshah, front secretary general, left Baghdad this morning at the end of a visit to Iraq as part of a delegation of Palestinian resistance factions. Dr Ghawshah told INA that the delegation of the Palestinian resistance factions held talks with officials of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command on the current Arab situation and the ways to confront the national treason committed by As-Sadat when he signed the agreement of humiliation with the Zionist enemy. Dr Ghawshah added that we are certain that our comrades in the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party are fully determined to confront not just traitor As-Sadat, but also every other regime supporting treason or acting with neutrality toward it.

Dr Ghawshah affirmed that the Arab nation possesses sufficient strength, resources and capabilities to end the treason and to continue its militant march until liberation and victory are achieved.

Dr Ghawshah said that the Joint National Action Charter between Iraq and Syria and the Palestinian revolution are the major pillar of the struggle of our nation in the current phase to lead this nation toward the achievement of its national goals and to liberate Palestine.

PRIME MINISTER BRIEFS CABINET ON RECENT ARAB CONTACTS

JN281627 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

[Text] At today's Cabinet session, Prime Minister Mudar Badran submitted a detailed report on the results of the talks held by His Majesty King Husayn in Riyadh, Damascus and Baghdad with his brothers, the heads of the three Arab countries, and on the results of the contacts made by his majesty through his envoys with several other Arab heads of state.

The prime minister explained that the recent contacts dealt with means of strengthening the building of intrinsic Arab power and Arab solidarity in confronting the challenges imposed by recent developments in the Middle East issue and the current Arab situation.

The prime minister affirmed that the talks were held in a positive and responsible atmosphere and reflected an identical assessment of the situation, its dimensions and means for dealing with this situation in a manner that will guarantee the safeguarding of Arab rights and insure a sound and solid basis for joint action and political movement on both the Arab and international levels.

PRIME MINISTER BADRAN COMMENTS ON BAGHDAD CONFERENCE

JN291243 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Asked by JNA about the progress of the Arab foreign ministers conference currently being held in Baghdad, Prime Minister Mudar Badran made the following statement:

The Jordanian Govenment hopes that the conference will reach full agreement on the various questions submitted for discussion in implementation of the resolutions of the ninth Arab summit conference held in Baghdad and in light of national interests. Jordan is confident that full agreement will be reached.

His Majesty King Husayn made intensive contacts throughout last night and this morning with his brother Arab kings and presidents with the aim of consolidating the Arab position and the unified stand in facing external dangers and the forthcoming delicate phase.

AMBASSADOR TO RETURN FROM CAIRO 'EARLY NEXT WEEK'

JN290917 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 29 Mar 79 p 1 JN

[Text] Amman, AD-DUSTUR, JNA--The Jordanian Government decided yesterday to withdraw the Jordanian ambassador in Cairo. Ambassador Dhuqan al-Hindawi is expected to return to Amman early next week.

SPEAKER AL-AS'AD COMMENTS ON PEACE TREATY

NC271545 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 Mar 79 NC

[Text] After meeting with President Ilyas Sarkis today, Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad called for an Arab strategy to face the result of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

Speaker al-As'ad said that Lebanon, more than any other country, will suffer from the negative repercussions of the treaty. However, he emphasized, the Arab interest dictates that stability be guaranteed in Lebanon and that any threat resulting from the treaty should be steered away from Lebanon.

CABINET HOLDS WEEKLY MEETING; AL-HUSS MAKES STATEMENT

NC281535 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 28 Mar 79 NC

[Excerpts] At 1215 today, President Ilyas Sarkis presided over the weekly Cabinet meeting. The meeting, which was attended by the prime minister and the ministers, continued until 1410.

After the meeting, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss made the following statement: At today's meeting, the Cabinet dealt with the current developments in the Arab area and discussed the dimensions on the Lebanese and Arab levels of the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. The Cabinet also broached the decision made by the Arab League to extend the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] mandate for 3 months instead of 6. We pondered over this matter in view of the fact that Lebanon now stands on the threshold of a period of convalescence and we do not think that the Arab League would deny Lebanon the chance for a calm and natural convalescence.

Prime Minister al-Huss added: Naturally, we discussed the general political and security situation in the country, particularly in light of the recent developments that have taken place on the domestic level. We also were briefed by the minister of labor and social affairs on his contacts with the workers' and businessmen's representatives on the high cost of living.

The following dialog then took place between the prime minister and journalists:

Asked if today's press reports were true that the states funding the ADF have declared that this is the last time they will be funding the ADF, Prime Minister al-Huss said: We have not been notified of anything of this sort.

Asked if Lebanon had previous knowledge that the ADF mandate would be renewed for 3 months only, Prime Minister al-Huss replied: Lebanon's request for 6-month renewal was clear. It made this request in the letter the Lebanese Government had sent to the Arab League as well as in the instructions issued to the Lebanese ambassadors to a number of the Arab countries concerned with the ADF, asking them to contact the authorities concerned in this connection. The request was also frankly made in the text of the recommendation made by the Arab League Political Committee regarding the extension of the ADF mandate. Asked if there is anything new with regard to his visit to Saudi Arabia and if he intends to start his planned tour of the gulf states after his visit to Saudi Arabia, Prime Minister al-Huss said: For the time being, I am scheduled to visit the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on Sunday. Contacts are underway with other Arab states in preparation for my visit to them later on.

PROGRESSIVE FRONT ISSUES STATEMENT AGAINST TREATY

JN282157 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 28 Mar 79 JN

["Text" of statement issued by the Syrian Progressive Front of National Union Central Command on 28 March 79]

[Excerpts] Masses of our Arab people, freemen of the world: Yesterday, Egypt's ruler Anwar as-Sadat signed a treaty of humiliation and capitulation with the Zionist enemy, thus embodying his defeatist policy which began with the unilateral cease-fire in the October War with the Zionist enemy, followed by the Sinai agreement, his visit to occupied Jerusalem and then his signing the Camp David agreements.

If certain people believed that As-Sadat was doing this to bring U.S. policy to his side, or at least to neutralize it, and that he was only maneuvering, this belief has been proven completely wrong by his signing of the traitorous treaty in Washington yesterday, and moving to the trench of the enemies, Zionism and imperialism against the Egyptian people's interests, future and history, at the expanse of the Palestinian people, their displacement and struggle, and of the Arab nation and its sacrifices throughout 30 years.

By signing the treaty with the Zionist enemy under U.S. auspices and guarantees, As-Sadat has opened the door wide for Zionist and U.S. domination of the area, thus exposing it to international dangers with the resulting negative effects on the area's future and the Arab nation's interests. He also abandoned the nonalined countries. This is a general view of the traitorous treaty.

Masses of our Arab nation, let our slogan be to foil the traitorous treaty and destroy the As-Sadat regime. We will agreee on this slogan with Arab countries throughout the Arab nation, from the ocean to the gulf. We will rearrange our ranks by this slogan according to who stands with As-Sadat and who stands against him; who stands with the treaty and Israel, and who stands against the treaty and Israel. We are no longer Arabs of confrontation and Arabs of support, rich Arabs or poor Arabs, or the oil Arabs and the blood Arabs, as certain people maintain. We are all required to stand in one trench against the plot, defeat and capitulation. From now on, no compromise stand will be accepted. From now on, no hesitating stand or one that shirks responsibility will be accepted. Let our slogan be that anyone who does not stand against As-Sadat and the treaty, is necessarily against us, the people's interests and the Arab nation's future. There will be no courtesy or leniency from now on at the expense of the fateful issue.

In the past, we heard much talk about solidarity with As-Sadat and about giving him the chance to retreat. It was said that perhaps he was maneuvering and that he would not sign a separate reconciliation with the Zionist enemy. These statements are absolutely not acceptable now that As-Sadat has signed a treaty of reconciliation, recognition and alliance with the Zionist enemy. From now on, any differences that might arise among the Arab countries over this matter are not local differences over regional interests, ideological issues or border disputes here and there, and consequently are not peripheral disputes. This is a conflict over the substantial issue that constitutes a basic and primary part of the conflict between the Arab nation and its existence, and Zionism and its ambitions.

All the Arab countries are required to adopt a clear and declared stand against As-Sadat and the traitorous treaty. The Arab nation's masses will not accept a hesitant or defeatist stand, particularly as in this issue we are all facing a grave crossroads.

We are either one Arab nation looking for a bright future through honorable struggle, or we are divided Arab countries following the bandwagon of U.S. imperialism and living under Zionist military, political, economic and cultural domination.

The Baghdad Arab summit resolutions represent the minimal limit of the Arab nation's demands. Any future Arab conference is required to adopt a firmer stand in calling As-Sadat to account, in fighting his regime with all weapons available, and in standing firmly in the face of the plot and in clear and frank declaration of Arab unanimity against defeatism, capitulation and the relinquishment of the nation's rights.

The resolutions of the Arab summits, particularly the Algiers, Rabat and Baghdad summits, concerning a just peace and its limits, explain the minimal limit of the struggling Arab nation's demands, proceeding from the objective conditions and available resources. In no way will the Arabs accept less than the restoration of the territory occupied in 1967 and the guarantee of the Palestinian Arab people's national rights, especially their right to establish their own independent state, to return to their homeland and to determine their future over their national soil. No Arab leader has the right to be lenient about this minimal amount of rights. If anyone does so, he removes himself from Arab unanimity, disregarding it, and is first and foremost a traitor cursed by generations and history.

Free men of Egypt, your Arab nation is appealing to you to stand up in the face of the oppressor, the deviation and treason, in defense of Egypt's independence and struggling heritage. Workers and peasants of Egypt, your great battle is awaiting you. Rise up against the As-Sadat regime, his henchmen and brokers and the havoc he has wreaked on you and your sons' destinies. Let your factories and fields turn into strongholds of revolution against oppression and deviation. Students and intelligentsia of Egypt, As-Sadat has offended your struggle, culture and civilization. Put an end to his behavior, offenses and disdain. Let your institutes and universities turn into arenas of struggle to put an end to lies and deception.

Men of religion in Egypt, As-Sadat has deviated from the nation's unanimity and the course of the pan-Arab cause. He has reconciled with the Zionist Jews at the expense of his people and nation. Tomorrow, Israel's banner will unfurl in Cairo, the Cairo of Al-Mu'izz Idin al-Lah [10th century Islamic leader], the Cairo of Saladin and the Cairo of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir. Your nation is expecting you to declare holy war under the banner of faith and Arabism in the face of the renegade traitor to both Islam and Christianity.

Heroic soldiers of Egypt, As-Sadat disregarded your struggle, heroism and martyrdom. In the recent past, Carter stood in occupied Jerusalem describing the Israeli soldier as the greatest soldier on earth. Yesterday, Begin stood in Washington to speak about the Israeli heroes' contribution to achieving this victory, whereas As-Sadat stood to claim that the greatest contribution to what has been achieved is attributed to Carter, his faith and help. Tomorrow As-Sadat will ask you to play the Israeli anthem in Cairo and to pay respect and salutes to terrorist Begin, the enemy of our people, land and holy places. Put an end to his disdain and reject the disgrace As-Sadat wants to place upon your heroic army, while talking about the new missions he wants to entrust you with, after his reconciliation with the Zionist enemy. These are missions for mercenary policeman, to carry out the aims of the United States and its allies in Africa.

ASSEMBLY SPEAKER CALLS FOR ARAB PARLIAMENTARY MEETING

JN271717 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 27 Mar 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--Mahmud Hadid, speaker of the People's Assembly, has addressed a message to the president of the Arab Parliamentary Federation and to speakers of several Arab parliaments and assemblies, calling for an Arab parliamentary meeting to discuss the steps to be taken following As-Sadat's signing the agreement of treason and capitulation. The messages stressed that the Arab people's representatives must now shoulder their responsibilities at a time when we are facing--in addition to the Israeli and imperialist aggression--the Egyptian rulers's treason.

Mahmud Hadid also received the Syrian-French Parliamentary Friendship Society delegation this afternoon. He talked to the delegation about the latest developments in the region and the repercussions of the separate peace treaty. He stressed that the treaty has isolated Egypt from the Arab nation, and that the Egyptian people will not remain silent about As-Sadat's treason. He added that As-Sadat's destiny will be similar to that of other traitors. The French delegation's chairman explained the French viewpoint on the Middle East question, based on the need for the Zionist forces' total withdrawal from the occupied Arab territores and the recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's national rights.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD INTERVIEWED BY NEWSWEEK

JN271036 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Mar 79 JN

["Text" of interview granted by President Hafiz al-Asad to Arnaud de Borchgrave of NEWSWEEK on Wednesday, 21 March 1979, in Damascus--read by announcer]

[Text] Question: President Carter and Dr Brzezinski have explained during their recent missions in the area that the accords are the beginning, not the end, of the process to achieve a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East. Therefore, what useful objective will be served by applying economic and political sanctions against Egypt?

Answer: Egypt is an Arab country. Throughout history, it has been in the vanguard of the Arab struggle against all aggressors. Now As-Sadat has removed Egypt and placed it in the same trench with Israel, the enemy of the Arabs, which is occupying Arab territories. The Arabs must, in self-defense, adopt protective measures against this regime which has placed itself in a position hostile to the Arab nation. There is no need to go into any further detail to prove this transfer from the Arab trench to the Zionist trench. It is sufficient that the accords clearly show that As-Sadat has abandoned his Arab obligations under the Arab summits and the Arab League covenants, foremost of which is the collective Arab defense pact. The accords also show that As-Sadat has given priority to his accords with Israel over all other pacts with the Arabs. This constitutes a squandering of the rights of the Egyptian people and the Arab nation. Do they expect us, after all this, to help As-Sadat?

Question: If Syria, Jordan, the PLO and the West Bank Arabs are all refusing to have anything to do with the Carter initiative, even in the way of testing the true intentions of the United States and Israel concerning a Palestinian solution, is it not possible that the final result will be Israel's annexation of the West Bank on the basis of a fait accompli?

Answer: What is now taking place is that Israel is being helped to establish its control over the territories--both Palestinian and non-Palestinian--it occupied in 1967.

It is also being helped to suppress the legitimate rights of the Palestinians. All that was given international legality, and attempts are now being made to give it Arab legality. This is what is being done by U.S. policy, or what is termed the efforts of the U.S. administration, at this stage. In other words, these efforts are nothing but a fierce war against Arab aspirations and interests, because they are aimed at weakening and dividing the Arabs so that some of the Arabs will support Israel. These efforts are forcing the Arabs to sign a surrender document under which they would concede many of their sacred rights.

What does Palestinian autonomy mean? Does it not mean that we have acknowledged that the West Bank and Gaza are part of the State of Israel? Did Begin not confirm this very point yesterday when he said that autonomy is just applicable to the population? What he was saying is that there is an Arab population, but the land is Israeli. To be more specific, what Begin meant was that there is an Arab population in the West Bank, but that the land of the West Bank is Israeli.

Furthermore, where are the rights of the dispersed Palestinians? Where is the withdrawal from the Golan and Jerusalem? All this has vanished. Yet, the U.S. administration wants us to give our approval and satisfaction on a silver platter. In light of what has happened and is happening, we believe that the American line set by the U.S. administration is just serving Israeli aspirations and desires. It is not suitable for us, the Arabs, to pursue.

Question: What is the alternative then?

Answer: I must point out here that what is now taking place between the U.S. administration, As-Sadat and Israel constitutes a flagrant violation of the UN resolutions. We will continue to adhere to the UN resolutions and to insist on their implementation. We will also continue to search for all possible means which will help us regain our rights and which will insure an accurate and faithful implementation of the UN resolutions.

At any rate, Israel has taken our territory by force and dispersed the Palestinian people and some of the Syrian and Egyptian people by force. We will regain the land and we will find the means to regain our rights which were usurped by force, if we do not find one who can implement the UN resolutions.

Question: Yasir 'Arafat has called for an oil embargo against Egypt and the United States. Are you also in favor of this?

Answer: In principle, we will work for the implementation of the Baghdad summit resolutions. At every stage, we will do what we think is suitable. Naturally, the Arabs have the right to use all the weapons they have.

Question: Some Arab leaders say that the United States is following a new imperialist policy. They also say that they will go all the way to foil the American-Zionist-As-Sadat conspiracy. What do these slogans mean?

Answer: The U.S. administration is trying to turn the issue into an inter-Arab conflict in the area. It is trying to make some of the Arabs move toward the Israeli position and thus create a conflict between them and other Arabs. The U.S. administration is also making other attempts to create tension in the area, such as the American fleet movements in the gulf area which, it was said, were due to the Yemeni incidents. But when these incidents were over, attempts were made to intimidate certain Arab countries and to encourage others to get involved in certain problems by making them understand that the United States would protect them.

All this gives you an idea of the U.S. attempts to embroil the area in conflicts, through which U.S. policy can achieve its objectives in the area. Of course, this policy only serves the objectives of Zionism, not the objectives of the American citizen in the United States. Otherwise, why did the American fleet not move when Israel occupied southern Lebanon and when it also occupied the Golan and the West Bank before that? And, will the American fleet move to prevent Israel from occupying new Arab territory it if tries to do that?

U.S. policy in this area continues to serve the interests of Israel and Zionism. It is not serving the interests of the American people. The American people are not aware of this. If they had been aware of what is happening, they would not have approved it.

Question: Do you share the view of other Arab leaders that President Carter is mainly inspired by internal political considerations?

Answer: As I said, U.S. policy in this area, and as we see it, is not inspired by the interests of the American citizen or of the Arabs. It is regrettable that certain internal American considerations are playing a major role in this policy; by this, I mean the influence of certain Zionist Jews on U.S. elections.

Question: Will Palestinian Fedayeen now have the right to operate against Israel across your border?

Answer: We have not prevented them at any time. We have not told anyone that we prevent them. The matter concerns them.

Question: Saudi Crown Prince Fahd believes that no matter how regrettable it is, the Egyptian-Israeli treaty constitutes a new reality in the area and that the second stage of the agreement, that is, the one dealing with a Palestinian solution, must be put to the test by the entire Islamic world. Do you have any objection to that?

Answer: No doubt, the new position which the Egyptian regime has taken toward Israel is a new reality. But this does not mean that we should accept this reality. Israel's occupation of Jerusalem, the West Bank, the Golan and other Arab territories is an existing reality. But does this mean that we will submit to it? Certainly not. The main thing here is Arab solidarity and Arab determination to regain the usurped Arab rights. Of course, we expect the Islamic world to support us. Iran's position on this matter is crystal clear.

Question: Prince Fahd has also said that he will not make Egypt suffer as a result of any Arab decision, and that if multilateral Arab aid to Egypt under the Rabat summit resolution were cut off, Saudi aid to Egypt would make up [satu'awwid] for that. Therefore, how can the sanctions harm Egypt?

Answer: At the Baghdad Arab summit conference we adopted resolutions calling for boycotting the Egyptian regime if a separate agreement were signed with Israel. Saudi Arabia participated in drafting and approving these resolutions. Since that conference, Saudi Arabia has confirmed on several occasions, the last being the day before yesterday, that it will honor the Arab summit resolutions. The Baghdad summit resolutions call for suspending all aid.

Question: Saddam Husayn has described As-Sadat as a traitor and as mentally and psychologically incompetent to lead his country. Do you think that he is really a traitor?

Answer: I am not accustomed to using such a word. But if I have to call a spade a spade, I would say that As-Sadat is a traitor to the Egyptian people and the Arab nation.

He has deviated from Arab values and sacrificed Arab dignity, principles and interests, including the dignity, principles and interests of Egypt. The Egyptian people and the Arab nation must make him account for that. Those who think that the Egyptians are pleased with what As-Sadat is doing are mistaken. The future will expose the truth of the matter. We can say without hesitation that As-Sadat has brought about his own end.

Question: What kind of upheavals do you expect as a result of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty?

Answer: Upheavals inside Egypt. In the next phase, As-Sadat will depend on the Israeli and American security departments to protect him, not against any possible outside intervention but against the Egyptian people. Past experiences have shown that such outside protection is useless.

Question: Egypt's viewpoint is that it is regaining the whole of Sinai, including the oil and the air bases, and that Israel will remove its settlements from Sinai. Egypt also believes that it will be setting foot on the threshhold of Gaza. Prince Fahd believes that the process must continue. What do you think?

Answer: There is no room here to appraise the agreement in all its details, because this would require pages. But I can briefly say that by what he has done, As-Sadat has deprived Egypt of all the means of strength, of which the Egyptian Arab people have always been proud. In the long term, As-Sadat will be placing Egypt under Israeli tutelege. The incomplete retrieval of Sinai cannot justify Egypt's severance from its Arab nation, nor can it justify the Egyptian people's severence from their history, which has always been part of Arab history, and from their struggle, which has always been part of the Arab struggle. It cannot justify the Egyptian people's incomplete sovereignty over their heritage and resources.

We can prove this by citing just one example. Take the cultural restrictions imposed by the Camp David agreement on the Egyptian people. According to these restrictions, there must not be a single textbook in Egyptian schools speaking about Zionism. And if it did, it must not say, for instance, that Zionism is a racist movement. It must speak well of Zionism. We can imagine what a deep stab this is to the very dignity and rights of the Egyptian citizen, or for that matter to the basic and fundamental rights of any person, such as the right to culture and to knowing the facts as they are.

Question: The immediate establishment of an independent Palestinian state is impossible for obvious reasons. Why shouldn't partial self-rule for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza quickly turn to self-rule, if the PLO showed self-restraint and political maturity? This self-rule could, in turn, lead to self-determination. Why can't we apply rule one in diplomacy--namely, the art of possibility.

Answer: Discussing principles is one thing and discussing tactics and implementation is something else. The matter here concerns principles which call for establishing the identity and rights of the Palestinian Arab people. The question here is: Are we or are we not going to establish this identity and these rights? This is the crux of the problem. A country may sometimes maneuver on any practical steps concerning tactics, but it cannot maneuver or bargain on anything relating to principles.

Question: When reading the Western Press, you get the impression that public opinion in the United States and Western Europe believes that As-Sadat's Egypt is seeking peace, while Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Algeria and Libya are seeking war. What do you think?

Answer: It is not quite so. I read what is published in the American and European press. Regardless of the prevailing view in any country in Europe or in the United States that the Egyptian-Israeli camp is the camp of peace and the Arab camp is the camp of war, I said in a speech a few days ago that if we are to call the attempts being made by Egypt, Israel and the U.S. administration as attempts for the sake of peace, then we can say that this peace is the peace of war not the peace of security [aman]. At any rate, we cannot base our positions on the impressions of any other country, especially when such impressions are not based on fact and the matter concerns crucial national and pan-Arab issues.

Question: How far will the Syrian-Iraqi alliance go? Do you believe that Jordan will join this alliance?

Answer: We in Syria and Iraq are in agreement to develop joint action between us to the point of unifying the two countries at the appropriate time, but we are not in a hurry. We are also in agreement that our steps must be well-studied to avoid any set-backs. So far, we have taken considerable steps. The work continues. Naturally, we consider the agreement between the two countries as the nucleus of wider Arab action and a more comprehensive Arab unity, including a joint military command.

Question: In your opinion, how can the Camp David accords fail?

Answer: They are already a failure. They carry the seeds of their failure. They call it a peace agreement. Has it achieved, or will it achieve peace? I do not think that anyone can say that, and whoever says this will be bitterly disappointed because peace will not be achieved unless it is agreed on by all the parties to the dispute. One must not imagine that the Egyptians will side with the enemies of the Arab nation. One must not imagine also that As-Sadat can place Egypt in the same position. One must not forget that As-Sadat is only an individual, not the people.

Question: If the United States decided to suspend or reduce military aid to Jordan, do you expect Iraq to compensate that?

Answer: We will deal with that question when we come to it. At any rate, the Arabs must stand together through thick or thin.

Question: After listening to Dr Brzezinski, Saudi Arabia became convinced that Carter is sincere and determined to move toward a Palestinian solution. I understand you do not share this viewpoint. Is this true?

Answer: I do not think that President Carter is determined to implement the solution we consider right for the Palestine question. What is important to us is a just solution, not any solution.

FOREIGN MINISER KHADDAM INTERVIEWED BY PARIS PAPER

LD290859 Paris LE MONDE in French 28 Mar 79 pp 1, 4 LD

[Eric Rouleau interview with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Paris on 26 March: "The Arab Countries Will Deprive Egypt of Any Economic Aid"]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr Minister, why does Syria oppose a treaty which restores a lost territory to Egypt, an Arab country, and which could be a move toward peace?

[Answer] The Israeli-Arab conflict did not start with the occupation of Sinai or the Golan Heights, but with the Palestinian affair. How can anybody talk of peace when the heart and essence of the conflict has not been tackled? The Camp David agreements offer the Palestinians less than the South African Government finally offered Namibia.

Let me make myself clear. We are in favor of peace--a real peace based on all the UN resolutions and which would have a chance of lasting. We are convinced that if Mr as-Sadat had not gone to Jerusalem in November 1977, 1979 would have been the year of global peace. Just before that trip, the United States and the USSR had reached agreement on the bases and process required for a settlement. Appropriate international pressures would have led to the desired objective.

[Question] Why does your government regard Mr as-Sadat as a traitor?

[Answer] First, because he separated from his allies to conclude a separate peace. Marshal Petain did the same long before him and was regarded as a traitor by the French, British and Americans. Second, because Mr as-Sadat has received the price of his treachery: In exchange for his abandonment of the other occupied territories and of the Palestinian cause, Israel offered to restore Sinai to him.

Mr as-Sadat will pay for his treachery. The glorious Egyptian people will never accept dishonor and isolation. I expect As-Sadat to have a much worse end than the shah of Iran. He will be overthrown before the end of this year and before the first phase of the treaty has been completed. As-Sadat is deceiving his people when he maintains that peace will open the gates of paradise to them. It is not true that the United States can improve economic and social conditions with $1 billion or $2 billion per year. The United States cannot and does not want to give more. It cannot even satisfy a country like Turkey, even though it is a NATO member and has accepted U.S. bases on its territory. No, Egypt's economic problems can only be solved by staying in the Arab world, which was giving it more than $4 billion every year, come what may.

"Saudi Arabia Will Not Defy Arab Public Opinion"

[Question] Do you believe that Saudi Arabia will help to destabilize As-Sadat's government at the risk of opening the way for.... Mr Khaddam did not wait to hear the end of the question. He hammered out his words:

[Answer] "Saudi Arabia knows that As-Sadat is doomed to disappear from the scene, for political, economic and social reasons which it cannot remedy. Why then would it take the risk of defying Saudi and Arab public opinion and head for a clash with the Palestinians? Saudi Arabia is keen on the advantages of international cooperation. It is aware of the role Syria and Iraq played recently in putting an end to the war between the two Yemens, thus contributing to the security and stability of the Arabian Peninsula. No, believe me, Saudi Arabia is aware of its great responsibilities in the Arab and Islamic world. It will never allow its subsidies to help finance a separate peace which, among other things, abandons Jerusalem, a city of equivalent standing to Mecca, to the occupying forces. Moreover, an official communique published in Riyadh a few days ago announced that Saudi Arabia will implement all the decisions taken at the Baghdad summit...."

[Question] Do you foresee a confrontation between the two superpowers?

[Answer] The Israeli-Egyptian treaty gives the United States a hegemonic position in the Near East, which threatens the sovereignty of the countries in the area, their national interests and peace. It is natural, therefore, that these countries should appeal for help to the USSR and any other power capable of forming a counterbalance to American influence and supporting us in our resistance to the Israeli-American-Egyptian alliance. Such a polarization will undoubtedly lead to international tension.

ALGERIA

BENDJEDID MEETS WITH GUINEA-BISSAU'S CABRAL

LD282234 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2100 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpts] President Chadli Bendjedid and Guinea-Bissau President Luis Cabral met at the Palais du Peuple soon after their arrival from Dar el Beyda airport, where the Algerian head of state had welcomed his guest.

The president of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau is accompanied by the commissioner of state for economic cooperation and planning, Vasco Cabral, and the director of international cooperation, (Ignacio).

LIBYA

FEDERAL COUNCIL ISSUES STATEMENT ON ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN TREATY

LD281530 Tripoli JANA in English 1419 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, March 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The nation's Federal Council issued a statement today following the signing of the capitulatory treaty between the defeated Egyptian president and the Zionist enemy in which it called for the implementation of the resolutions of the Baghdad summit, the convening of a joint Islamic-Arab summit for the defence of the Arab and Islamic nation and that of an emergency African summit for confronting the violation of the organization's charter.

The council called upon the UN secretary-general to condemn the Egyptian-(Israeli) treaty which poses a threat to world peace and violates UN resolutions. It demanded that on 26 March of every year flags in the Arab and Islamic world should be lowered since that day is similar to the one in which Balfour promised to give Palestine to the Zionists.

The statement pointed out that this treaty was a document of treason deviating from all norms, laws and resolutions whether Arab, African, Islamic or international.

This treaty, the statement added,is detrimental to Egypt's political and economic independence, bringing a mandate to the country by which (Israel) would exploit her economically, corrupt her society, disrupt her army, humiliate her people who will be used to carry out imperialist-Zionist schemes in Egypt and the Arab world.

The council said that the defeated Egyptian president insisted on signing the document which secures Zionist usurpation, ensures dissident conspiracies and imperialist interests in the Arab region. Thus the treaty is a flagrant violation of all resolutions stipulating the liberation of Arab territories, the recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's national rights and of the PLO as their sole legitimate representative and the refusal to sign any separate agreement with the enemy, as well as stipulating that Jerusalem is an Arab city.

Moreover, the defeated Egyptian president has deviated from the resolutions of African summits and Islamic states and the charter of their organization, thus insulting the Islamic world.

He also violated the UN Charter and resolutions endorsed by all the countries of the world except by America and the Zionist enemy concerning the liberation of Arab territories, the Palestinian people's rights, the Arabism of Jerusalem and considering the Zionist enemy a racist regime similar to that of South Africa.

The statement pointed out that he has betrayed the council's constitution which stipulated that no efforts should be spared to liberate the occupied Arab territories, that no concessions or negotiations should be made to give up not even one inch of these territories, that the Palestinian cause should not be abandoned or bargained over. As-Sadat has broken his oath to the council.

MOROCCO

PRESS COMMENTS ON SIGNING OF EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TREATY

LD281430 Rabat MAP in English 1250 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Press review on Egyptian-Israeli treaty]

[Text] Rabat, Mar 28 (MAP)--The leading Moroccan dailies jointly commented on the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement. The Independent Party's daily AL-MAGHRIB stated that the divergences between the signers of the peace treaty still remain, and the treaty signed Monday does only confirm them.

"For Israel, the daily said, the Washington agreement, and naturally the Camp David treaty, only confirm the requirements of the Zionist state: no fundamental concession is made to Egypt. The main point concerning the Palestinians is vaguely cited: The Palestinians do not exist as an entity for Begin nor as a people aspiring to a state and to a territory. The agreement subtly introduces the notion of "autonomy" on which nobody agreed. Neither President Carter, nor As-Sadat and Begin have a coherent conception of autonomy. The agreement ironically foresees an administrative autonomy with an administrative council too. However, in Begin's mind, it is only a formula which has never meant an independence, matched from the creation of an independent state.

The Istiqlal Party's daily L'OPINION estimated that "it is illusory to talk of peace, because it cannot be reestablished only by the signing of an accord which keeps under silence the fundamental conditions which must necessarily be gathered to put an end to the state of war prevailing in the region in more than thirty years". The daily added that "the remaining problem is the Palestinian question, heart of the crisis in the Middle East and on the solution of which depends the future of the region. The dispositions concerning the Gaza Strip and the West Bank foreseen in the Washington agreement do not respond to the people willingness [as received] in the region, who often expressed their attachment to the Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO], sole and legitimate representative of the entire Palestinian people in struggle for self-determination and for the right to found a state on their territory."

"Peace in the Middle East cannot be lasting and true if it is not global, and if it does not take into account the Palestinian people and the Arab unanimous will. Otherwise it would only be an illusion", the daily concluded.

For its part, the Socialist Union of Popular Forces Party's daily, AL-MOUHARRIR, published a declaration in which it condemns the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and underlines the danger which it constitutes for the Arab and Palestinian cause, and also invites the Moroccan people to remain solidary with the Palestinians in their legitimate struggle. The daily quoted that, "No global peace can be achieved in the Middle East without Israel's withdrawal from the 1967 Arab occupied territories and the creation of a Palestinian state with a total independence."

"The Washington peace treaty, the daily added, is a treason to the Egyptian people, because it binds the withdrawal from the Sinai to conditions which attempt to the sovereignty of Egypt. [as received] It constitutes a treason to the Palestinian people, because it (?leaves) the Gaza Strip in the Zionists' hands to decide of its future the way they want. It also constitutes a treason to the Arab world, because it ignores the Arab solidarity, the decisions supporting the Palestinian people and notably those of the 1974 Arab summit in Rabat", the daily concluded.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI INTERVIEWED ON DOMESTIC, ARAB, AFRICAN SCENE

LD260739 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 21 Mar 79 p 3 LD

[Interview granted by President Ja'far Numayri to Muhammad 'Anon in Khartoum--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Wars are increasingly flaring up on your borders--Ethiopia in the east, Uganda in the south and Chad in the west. How do you view these wars and what is their impact on the internal situation in Sudan?

[Answer] Some people will probably recall that 3 years ago I warned against the implications of the international conflict shifting to the African continent and surrounding areas. I in fact warned that the implications of such a situation would not be a confrontation between the major powers but rather a confrontation in their interest, because the parties to and victims of such conflict would be the local powers, whether fighting among themselves internally or facing one another across borders.

Some people will probably also recall the tour I made with the aim of safeguarding Red Sea security against the implications of international conflict. The tour resulted in the Ta'izz limited summit which was attended by Somalia, Sudan, North Yemen and South Yemen, although other parties declined to attend for several reasons. But now that the situation has exploded in the Arab area adjacent to the Red Sea, all the parties probably now realize that the objective of the tour and the summit was to take preventative action. Had this action been supported and succeeded, the situation would not be what it is today.

Going back to the question, I would say that what is happening in Chad is not only a conflict between local forces but also a reflection of foreign influence. The same applies to what is happening in Uganda and Ethiopia and among people of the same country in North and South Yemen. Although the centers of conflict are coming closer to our borders--Uganda in the south, Ethiopia in the east and Chad in the west--we believe that the African Continent will eventually be able to put an end to and eliminate such conflicts.

With regard to Sudan, in view of its responsibilities as an indivisible part of Africa it is exerting every effort to reach a peaceful settlement to all conflicts. Therefore, our role has been and still is to establish peace and security in Chad as well as to move from military conflict to a political solution to the Eritrean problem. We still insist on achieving this aim despite the failure of the Freetown talks. With regard to the Ugandan-Tanzanian conflict, in my capacity as OAU chairman I have paid a working visit to the two sister African states in an effort to settle the disputes between them. Such efforts are still continuing.

With regard to the impact of all this on the internal situation in Sudan, we are no doubt suffering from it. There is the problem of hundreds of thousands of Eritrean refugees and tens of thousands of Ugandan and Chadian refugees in our country. There is also the possibility of the same situation recurring on our borders with Chad and with Uganda. As a result we find ourselves suffering from economic and social problems because of these conflicts--a fact that redoubles our responsibilities toward reaching an end to these problems, first because of our African commitments and, second, in order to safeguard our interests, which are being directly affected by this conflict.

[Question] What are the latest developments regarding national reconciliation following As-Sadiq al-Mahdi's change of attitude and what is the future of the ASU political organization as a ruling organization after national conciliation?

[Answer] I can say with reassurance and confidence that we have moved beyond national reconciliation to total national unity. All the veterans that have returned from abroad are sharing in the responsibility for national action in the various fields and political, constitutional and executive institutions. There is no discrimination in rights and obligations among these people. The brothers who have been away from Sudan for many long years have returned in order to take part in national action within its conventions and institutions. Some of them are now members of the Sudanese ASU Political Bureau and others are assuming responsibilities in the executive body. Some of them are members of the Central Committee and the People's Assembly. These include the rapporteur of the People's Assembly, parliamentary opposition leader Dr 'Abd al-Hamid Salih. With regard to brother As-Sadiq al-Mahdi, there is nothing new in his attitude as he has accepted national reconciliation and is still abiding by it.

[Question] How would you describe Sudanese-Libyan relations and what lies behind the deterioration in these relations following last year's signs of improvement? What is the truth about the claim that Libya sought to obstruct your talks with Ethiopian President Mengistu Mariam?

[Answer] I can see nothing new in Sudanese-Libyan relations. I believe that our links with sisterly Libya are based on ties of religion, race, neighborhood and common interests. This is a strong basis for consolidating and developing relations between us for the welfare of our Arab and Islamic nation and the fraternal Libyan and Sudanese peoples.

We are still working and will continue to work with an open heart and mind for the purpose of strengthening these relations. This is what Islam, in which we believe, calls upon us to do. This is also our duty as part of our Arab affiliation within whose framework we act. This is everything for two fraternal peoples. There is nothing that can separate them, and only their enemies have an interest in creating conflicts and clashes between them.

As for what is being said about Libya having sought to obstruct the Freetown summit that brought me together with brother Mengistu, I do not believe it. I do not believe it because Muslim Libya cannot possibly be a stumbling block to Sudan's efforts to end the fighting and the massacring and dispersion of hundreds of thousands of Eritrean Muslims.

I do not believe it because Arab Libya cannot possibly accept that Muslim Sudan should continue to suffer the implications of the conflict in Eritrea for its security and stability as well as economic and social development.

I do not believe it because in Islam, through Islam and in accordance with the holy Koran, we must cooperate in doing good and performing charity and not collaborate in crimes and aggression.

[Question] How would you describe your relations with Saudi Arabia and what was the outcome of your recent visit?

[Answer] A precise description of our relations with Saudi Arabia can be summed up in a few words--they are an example of cooperative relations stemming from Islamic brotherhood and close cooperation within an Arab framework committed to the causes of the Arab nation. This is in addition to the existing interlinking relations between the Saudi and Sudanese peoples. With regard to my recent visit to the kingdom, it was exactly the same as previous visits and future ones as well, God willing. It took place within the framework of continuing consultation and coordination between the two countries.

[Question] How much Arab capital is being invested in Sudan and are you satisfied with the volume of Arab investments in Sudanese development projects?

[Answer] Frankly and truly I am more than satisfied and grateful for the Arab contribution to Sudanese development. Arab capital is playing a major role in building the infrastructure of Sudanese economic projects as well as in giant agricultural and industrial projects in our country. My wish for more aid stems from my aspiration for a role for Sudan as provider of the food needs of the whole Arab area. Thank God, we have unlimited potential enabling us to achieve this objective and even more.

BRIEFS

TUNISIAN OIL PRODUCTION--Tunis, March 28 (TAP)--The Tunisian oil production has reached 4.9 million tons in 1978, said the industry, mines and energy minister. The national consumption amounts to about 2.2 million tons and the refining capacity is about 1 million tons. [Text] [Tunis TAP in English 1411 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD]

BEGIN SAYS NEW AUTONOMY PROPOSALS READY IN 6 WEEKS

TA281108 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 28 Mar 79 p 1 TA

[Prime Minister Menahem Begin interview by No'ah Moses in New York on 27 Mar]

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Menahem Begin, yesterday replied to my question concerning expected developments in the region.

[Question] How do you expect matters in the Middle East to develop over the next few months?

[Answer] The government's 11th committee will begin to prepare the principles of autonomy and its arrangements right after my return from Cairo. At any rate, in 6 weeks, in accordance with the agreement, we will be ready with our proposals. The two delegations, the Israeli and the Egyptian, will meet in Beersheba and Al-'Arish alternately and will open negotiations. At their conclusion we will have a year's extension. That is the next stage in the development of matters after signing the treaty.

[Question] Can we expect any future change in the relations between Israel and the U.S. administration?

[Answer] Present relations between Israel and the United States have never been better. There is no need for a change.

DAYAN RETURNS TO ISRAEL, DISCUSSES GESTURES TO ARABS

TA281532 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 28 Mar 79 TA

[From the IDF Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] Sources in the prime minister's entourage clarified to our political correspondent Yosi 'Abadi, who is with them in New York, that only when the prime minister returns to Israel will Israel decide on the gestures it will make to the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza--gestures requested by the Americans. The gestures about which the Americans asked for an Israeli decision are: The removal of military government headquarters from the towns and the release of administrative detainees.

About 3 hours ago Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan returned to Israel from Washington and our correspondent Rafi Reshef asked him about these gestures.

[Dayan--begin recording] First of all these are issues with respect to which Egypt has made an appeal and there is no need to make gestures here because these things already exist--freedom of movement for the Arabs in the territories to Israel and outside Israel and travel abroad; the same is true for peaceful political--not political activity which incites violence--let us say newspapers that are published in which the Arabs express their opinions and the freedom of political expression subject to the laws of obtaining a license to organize a gathering and so forth. Over and above this I think that the gestures concentrate on two things: the transfer of the Gaza military government headquarters outside the town.

This does not in any way affect the activities of the military government, it is only a question of the location of the building. In various places in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip the headquarters are located outside the towns and frequently in the past we found this to be more convenient from our point of view.

There are female soldiers there and civilians during the evening and during the day--this is one issue. The second issue refers to releasing a limited number of people who are not under detention in the wake of a court judgment--not the release of all the prisoners but the release of a certain number of prisoners of one kind or another--I think that we are talking about small numbers. [end recording]

Further Details

TA281751 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 28 Mar 79 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] This afternoon Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan returned from Washington and presented to correspondents at Ben-Gurion Airport the Israeli copy of the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt which was signed the day before yesterday. Our correspondent Dan Eshel was at Ben-Gurion Airport. [Begin recording]

[Eshel] The copy of the treaty was carried by Dr Rosenne. After the legal adviser reviewed the contents of the document, the foreign minister presented two additional documents: According to one of them, the United States has agreed to accept Israeli requests for military aid in the event that Egypt violates the treaty.

[Dayan] We need this. However, let us hope we will not need this. However, if the treaty is violated--usually countries open war following a state of peace--not just Egypt. Wars always break out between countries which have had peaceful relations. Then, the question between ourselves and the United States is whether the United States, as I said before, is prepared to: first, insure the agreement is kept, implemented--not to supply Israel with arms so that it can wage a proper war--first of all the agreement must be kept, be insured and be honored. However, if this is not the case and the agreement is violated and we are forced to war--can we trust the United States, in the event, according to U.S. evaluations, it is needed--that is, we are not the ones violating the agreement but the other side obviously did, then we can receive assistance from the United States in order to withstand these violations.

[Eshel] Mr Dayan adds that the United States has not undertaken to comply with every Israeli request, but to discuss the issue according to the U.S. basic constitution. I asked the foreign minister whether he is aware of a similar agreement between the United States and Egypt.

[Dayan] As far as I know there is no such agreement. However, I assume that had Egypt been interested in such an agreement the United States would have complied. I do not know whether the same terms would have been suggested. I assume the United States would not have suggested exactly the same terms. However, I personally have no doubt that the United States would have been prepared to grant Egypt something parallel to what it has promised us. That is, if Israel violates the agreement the United States will, first, insure that the treaty is kept and, second, if Israel violates the agreement the United States will help Egypt to repel the Israeli violations. [end recording]

BEGIN DENIES REPORTS OF GESTURES TO ARABS

TA081708 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 28 Mar 79 TA

[Text] The prime minister denies that Israel has agreed to evacuate the military headquarters from Judaea and Samaria. He also denies the report that the military government headquarters in Gaza will be removed from the Gaza Strip.

Mr Begin made this statement to Acting Prime Minister Zevulun Hammer, who phoned him to hear precise details on the unilateral concessions Israel has made to Egypt.

Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that Israel has agreed to grant freedom of movement and freedom of organization in the territories as has been the custom up to now. Israel has also agreed that several dozen Arab residents, who were forced to leave the territories, would return in the framework of the reunification of families plan. Mr Begin told Minister Hammer that all the accounts on the issue of the release of prisoners were not true.

BEGIN'S ANNOUNCEMENT TAKES GAZA AUTHORITIES BY SURPRISE

TA281022 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Mar 79 p 7 TA

[Text] Senior officials in the military government in Gaza yesterday refused to react to the gesture Prime Minister Begin made after signing the peace treaty with Egypt, according to which the general staff headquarters of the military government will shortly be moved from the center of the city of Gaza.

The ITIM correspondent to the region reports that the announcement was received by the officers with surprise, especially since the Gaza Strip, which covers only 320 sq km, has no unpopulated area. Nor is there any other settlement where it would be possible to move the headquarters of the military government and it will apparently have to be moved outside the strip territory.

The possibility must not be dismissed that the military government will be forced to move its offices and all its installations to Sderot or the Nir 'Am area, near the northern border of the strip. The reference is to moving dozens of offices and military headquarters, communications systems and other installations which are now in a row of buildings in the center of Gaza, as well as in the former government house which is to the west of the main street in Gaza. This building once served as the meeting place for the Palestinian Parliament which was active in Gaza for a short time.

According to another version, it may be that all the offices and headquarters of the military government, including the civilian administration with its hundreds of employees, will be moved to Kfar Darom near Dayr al Balah. There are several buildings there which are not in use.

ISRAELI MINISTERS ON REPORTED GESTURES TO EGYPT

TA281238 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 29 Mar 79 TA

[Text] The reports published this morning about the gestures Israel will make in the territories in the coming weeks, steps that will include removing the commands of the military authorities from the towns, freedom of movement and organization, cancellation of the administrative detentions and so on, aroused indignation among some of the ministers staying in Israel and curiosity among the rest. Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer says that the ministers are waiting to receive a report from the prime minister before they react publicly. He also reports on the reaction to the gestures in Jerusalem.

[Schiffer--begin recording] The matter of gestures was one of the issues discussed in the negotiations with Egypt with U.S. mediation.

For several months the United States has been pressuring Israel to take a series of unilateral steps in the territories to create a new atmosphere in relations with Egypt. The government discussed this matter prior to the prime minister's departure for the United States. It also discussed this in the Cabinet meeting chaired by Minister Hammer on Sunday. As far as is known the government rejected several of the gestures demanded of Israel. Nevertheless, according to U.S. publications the prime minister accepted some of the Egyptian requests. For example: The government agreed that the command of the military authorities would be taken out of Gaza but did not agree that the Judaea and Samaria command would be taken out of Bet-El, nor did it agree to other commands being taken out of other Judaea and Samaria towns. Ministers with whom I spoke this morning claimed that several gestures were not brought to the attention of the government. Israel did not retain bargaining chips for the negotiations on autonomy, one of the ministers said. A senior source consoled himself by hoping that these gestures are journalists' gestures, namely, that Begin has not agreed to make them at all. In any event, the ministers are tensely awaiting the prime minister's return from the United States to hear explanations of the gestures to be made in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. [end recording]

WEIZMAN HA'ARETZ INTERVIEW ON RELATIONS WITH EGYPT

TA281117 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Mar 79 p 1 TA

[By 'Uzi Benziman, HA'ARETZ correspondent in Washington]

[Text] In order to guarantee that the peace treaty will be real and that peaceful relations will develop between Israel and Egypt, both nations must open up to each other and get to know each other, Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman said yesterday in an exclusive interview with HA'ARETZ after the signing of the peace agreement.

Weizman added that so far only a few Israelis and Egyptians had met each other. Through mutual meetings the two peoples will realize the broad common ground existing between them and will also learn to recognize the differences between them.

The minister of defense pointed out that for 30 years the State of Israel was like a separate star among the nations of the Middle East, feeling closer to the United States and the countries of Western Europe. Egypt, 45 minutes away by air, was another world to Israel. Weizman added that this unnatural reality would now change, at first through the link to be created between the two armies--to actualize the security arrangements in the treaty--and after that through broadening of the mutual contact between the two peoples.

The defense minister stressed that Israel must refrain from patronizing the Egyptian people. "Only if the Egyptians appeal to us with a request for aid or advice must we respond," said Weizman, emphasizing the ancient heritage of the Egyptian people and its developed self-respect. "We must first get to know each other and afterward we must give each other advice and aid," the minister added. Weizman pointed out that the Egyptians were disturbed by the possibility of a concentrated Israeli effort to furnish them with advice and initiate massive cooperation with them. They are just as afraid of damage to the peace agreement as we are. They are entering a difficult isolation in the Arab world and we must be sensitive to their situation and take care not to make things more difficult for them.

In reply to a question as to what he expected the Egyptians to do to guarantee the validity of the treaty, Weizman said that they must get to know Israel, learn the small dimensions of the country, understand its security problems and the character of the Israeli people. Willingness to take the Israeli temperament into consideration will make it easier for the Egyptian to understand Israeli positions in negotiations over autonomy, which will open shortly Weizman said.

The minister of defense added that if the Egyptians get to know the tiny physical dimensions of Israel they will understand the size of our concession on Sinai. They must understand that from now on one of our security components will be their friendship, the defense minister said. He added that Egyptian consideration of Israeli sensitivities will permit them to think about the correct solution to the problem of the status of Jerusalem.

TALKS BETWEEN SHELLI MEMBER, PLO REPORTED

TA281438 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 28 Mar 79 TA

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] On the telephone we have Ram Kohen, a member of the Shelli Movement, from Kibbutz Gan Shemu'el. Good day to you. You met with a PLO member in Paris recently, did you not?

[Kohen] I had the opportunity of meeting with them, several of them, a week ago, on the eve of the achievement of the peace agreement between Israel and Egypt and immediately after.

[Question] I understand that they hinted to you that the organization is prepared to accept Resolution 242 with minor modifications they want to introduce.

[Answer] This is not accurate. By the way, the entire discussion revolved around the process of acceptance between the State of Israel and the Palestinian people, and this discussion was finally positively concluded. Their outlook was to the future though--will the situtation lead Israel and the Palestinians to a process of confrontation or to acceptance and putting up with each other. (?The conclusion) was that the acceptance of Resolution 242 on their part with modifications that will enable them to guarantee their interests is a process that is to be expected in the coming months, and then their integration within this process will be complete.

[Question] And do these remarks, to judge by the people or their status within the PLO, seem authoritative to you? Can we soon expect a change in the PLO's position?

[Answer] I can tell you about their authority, if I had to name a Palestinian Government today, then they would belong to what we call the first team.

[Question] Could you name those people?

[Answer] No, no, no. Since these ties and contacts are of enormous importance and at least some of the people concerned here are threatened by an Iraqi death sentence, and they have already murdered some of them, this indicates the huge danger surrounding the Palestinian issue and I cannot, to my regret, quote their names.

[Question] This secrecy always pervading the meetings between the Shelli members and the PLO members leads me to the following question, which is: If these people cannot stand behind the remarks they whisper in your ears, how will they be able to stand behind the dramatic turning point of recognizing the State of Israel or coming to an arrangement with Israel?

[Answer] Look, the important thing now is whether the process within the PLO is a process of moderation toward recognizing the State of Israel. This also depends on us of course--to what extent we, the Israelis, will be ready to recognize them. To quote them, they claim one thing: That since we, nationally, have everything, namely, a state, an army, an economy, police and so on, while they have nothing, then it is our duty to recognize them first. I believe that they will stand behind what they say. This was, by the way, the most important point of the meeting since their reasons for this position are deep and not superficial ones.

[Question] They talk of becoming moderate, you talk of moderation but we also hear Yasir 'Arafat threatening As-Sadat, the United States and Israel. The terrorist acts continue and nothing has changed, in fact.

[Answer] You are 100 percent right and here also is the disagreement between them and us. They can under no circumstances put up with this peace between us and Egypt including the autonomy plan, since autonomy for them is a continuation of the status quo with an Arab agreement. For them this is an even greater catastrophe. They talk of accepting Israel on condition that their expectations and aspirations to Palestinian independence and sovereignty will be recognized by the State of Israel. This last point is an entirely different matter.

[Question] In conclusion, do you also foresee a change in the Palestinian charter which talks of erasing Israel from the map?

[Answer] I can only tell you what my interlocutors described and this was astonishing for me. They described the Palestinian charter as a certain burden dating back to Shukayri's days, and, indeed, those who know the Palestinian history, know that these decisions of establishing a state instead of the State of Israel date back to Shukayri's period. I believe that if we initiate a process that will complete the Israeli-Egyptian peace process in the direction of mutual recognition between Israel and the Palestinian people, this charter will inevitably change. They told me something else though. They told me to see the platforms of the Israeli parties such as the Likud, the Labor Party or even MAPAM--they all, ideologically, talk of the entire Eretz Yisra'el, namely that we have not changed our positions. However, they said that we still have parties that are prepared to politically put up with the existence of at least two entities within the boundaries of Eretz Yisra'el and it is the political process that changes the ideology and not the other way round.

[Question] When will this turning point in the PLO occur?

[Answer] In their assessment this turning point may come into being only if Israel goes in the direction of accepting the establishment of a Palestinian state next to it and will be ready to enter negotiations with Palestinian representatives which are recognized by the Palestinian people. They told me something very astonishing: They said that in spite of all our claims against the PLO's activity, one thing must be understood: Those who fight for the Palestinian people are those who represent it and you will not determine who our representatives will be. In the event there is an agreement on our part to negotiations with Palestinian elements hinging on this, of course, are mutual recognition, peaceful coexistence, economic and other agreements between them and us. Then this progress will be made.

MINISTERS HAMMER, ABU-HAZERA FORM PARTY FRONT

TA281256 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 28 Mar 79 pp 4, 6 TA

[By Bina Barzel]

[Text] Ministers Zevulun Hammer and Aharon Abu-Hazera held two initial meetings yesterday of a series of party contacts to crystalize a united front for the struggle over autonomy.

They held meetings with the heads of Benei Aqiva religious colleges and schools and afterward they met with the representatives of 11 settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

A large section of the top ranks of the party attended the meetings, including the chairman of the Knesset faction, Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, five Knesset members and also the secretaries of the MAFDAL, Hamizrahi and the party's settlement movement.

At the meeting with the heads of the Benei Aqiva religious colleges, Rabbi Moshe Tzvi (Nari'ah) (who has great influence in Gush Emunim circles) called for a program which would permit every Jew to settle in Judaea and Samaria.

Rabbi Hayim Druckman said that if there was anyone to turn to, or anyone who could work to save Judaea and Samaria, "it is us." He said that he believed in the prime ministers' statements on the matter but the prime minister was content with statements and "our task is to see that these statements become actions."

In the name of Rabbi Tzvi Yehuda Kook, the spiritual leader of Gush Emunim, it was reported that he wanted the emphasis to be put on immigration ['aliyah] and settlement in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza as the only thing that could defend the whole country. He also said that it was within the MAFDAL's power to bring the government down or maintain it and the key to the matter of autonomy was in its hands.

A member of the Jewish agency directorate, Yosef Shapira, came out against party members known for their dovelike views and said: "I do not see any room in the MAFDAL for members whose views are those of 'Peace Now.'"

Minister Abu-Hazera, who is not considered to be a hawk, made an unambiguous declaration about the party's role in the struggle over autonomy. He said: "I say that the majority of the party is in favor of the MAFDAL program for Judaea, Samaria and Gaza."

Minister Zevulun Hammer said that the meeting had been called to explain the situation to the members of the movement and its institutions. He expressed the fear that those who had demanded concessions in Sinai would again demand concessions in Judaea and Samaria, on the claim that a chance should be given for a solution in this area, too. "But here is where we must tell them stop." He also called for closer links with representatives of the settlements.

Circles in the MAFDAL explained that Zevulun Hammer intends to head the camp which will fight for Judaea and Samaria and the number of those participating in yesterday's meetings proves that he enjoys great support in the party.

On the other hand, there are those who say that yesterday's initiative was born against the background of contacts within Gush Emunim circles to establish an independent list for the Knesset.

Such a list, if it receives support from the heads of the Benei Aqiva religious colleges, has a chance of biting off some of the MAFDAL's representation in the Knesset and of imposing on the party, from the outside, a policy which would prevent a withdrawal from Judaea and Samaria.

'AL HAMISHMAR ARTICLE DETAILS SETTLEMENT PLANS

TA271303 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 27 Mar 79 p 4 TA

[Hayim Shibi article: "The Scenario of 'Fleshing Out' in the West Bank"]

[Text] Waking up in the morning to hear news about the establishment of a new town or "urban center" somewhere near a center of Arab population, will continue to be part of life in Israel after signing the peace treaty.

Do not worry--there is method in this madness, at least as far as the settlement department of the World Zionist Federation is concerned. A pamphlet called "The Master Plan for the Development of Settlement in Judaea and Samaria for the Years 1979-1983," composed by Matityahu Drobles, attempts to present the overall scenario of the expected settlement with details about the goals, the budget and the locations. The materialization of the scenario is surely dependent on political considerations and on the compatibility of this policy to the other plans of bulldozers digging in the area. However, the pamphlet constitutes a key to understanding the strategy and direction of the settlement plan we will have during the first days of autonomy.

The introduction includes details of the principles guiding the authors of the plan: Settlement in the entire Eretz Yisra'el means security and settlement by right. The deployment of the settlements will be in blocs with each of them possibly becoming an urban center sometime in future. The most important provision is: "The deployment of the settlements must be carried out not only around the settlements of the minorities but also among them.... In due course, with or without peace we will have to learn to live with and among the members of the minorities in addition to cultivating neighborly relations. The same applies to them with regard to us.... Therefore the proposed blocs of settlement are deployed like a belt surrounding the mountain range--beginning with the western slopes from north to south, and along the eastern slopes of the mountain range, from south to north, both around the minority population and within it."

The plan proposes that the new settlements be set up on state-owned lands and not on lawfully-registered private Arab lands. The implementation of the plan includes the erection of 46 new settlements within 5 years, with an investment of 32 billion Israeli pounds. At the end of the process the settlements are expected to have 16,000 families. As for fleshing out existing settlements and those which are still underway, an addition of 11,000 families and an investment of 22 billion Israeli pounds is proposed.

On the whole, the vision of "life among the minorities" includes an addition of 27,000 families and an investment of 54 billion Israeli pounds. Now, after we have laid down the basic points, it is time for us to begin sticking the pins on the map.

Until the Interior Ministry committee on names finishes its job--and to calm down the communications media--the plan uses the terminology "Qarney Shomron B" or "Qarney Shomron H" when it refers to new settlements that will be set up near the existing Qarney Shomron or other settlements.

The proposed deployment, from north to south, is as follows:

A. Gush Rehan--A bloc of about five settlements between Hadera and Janin to be cooperative moshavs based on an integration of agriculture and industry.

B. Gush Ma'arav--A strip of four agricultural settlements stretching along the green line to the Tulkarm area.

C. The Dotan region--Establishing a large communal settlement on the site of the (Girqa) intersection overlooking the Dotan Valley.

D. Gush Sal'it--An addition of families to the existing settlements of Sal'it and Zur Natan.

E. Gush Shomron--four communal settlements: Ma'ale Nahal (north of the village of Burqa), and Ma'ale Nahal B on (Jabal Yasid) in addition to the settlements of Sanur and Shomron.

F. Gush Qedumim--a chain of four communal settlements southwest of Nabulus that will be based on intensive industry and agriculture. The blocs of Shomron and Qedumim will be based--according to the plan--on local water drillings. "If the need arises (according to future detailed planning) the drilling of further water wells in these regions should be considered," the plan states. Those who have already tired of this "fleshing-out" game must be a bit more patient. We have just begun painting the map with circles, squares, dots and triangles.

G. Gush Qarney Shomron--four new communal settlements in addition to "two urban centers" known as Elqana and Qarney Shomron, with 800 families in each center by the end of the 5 years.

H. Gush Ari'el--at least 1,500 families by the end of the 5 years in the town of Ari'el located on the road across Samaria which connects the center of the country with the Jordan Valley. In addition, another settlement west of Ari'el on the site located in (Khirbat ash-Shlal).

I. Gush Neve-Zuf--Three new communal settlements in addition to the existing settlement of Neve Zuf: Neve Zuf B in Khirbat ar Rushaniyah, and Neve Zuf C and D near Kafr 'Ayn.

J. Gush Giv'on and Gush 'Ezyon--Gush Giv'on north of Jerusalem will include two settlements in addition to Bet Horon and Giv'on. One of these will be on the Tolar Hill. Gush 'Ezyon--an addition of five new communal settlements including the town of Efrat south of Bethlehem.

K. The Tarqumiyah region--Erecting a large communal settlement in the site of Tarqumiyah Forest, northwest of Hebron; southwest of Hebron setting up two new settlements in the framework of Gush Adorayim is proposed.

L. Gush Yatir--eight communal settlements on both sides of the green line to be based on agriculture, industry and tourism.

M. The 'Amos region--A proposal of a new "mini town" on the site of Rujm an Naqah, northeast of Hebron.

N. Gush Adumim--A territorial continuity of five settlements, the largest of which is the urban settlement of Ma'ale Ha'adumim east of the capital with 1,500 families by the end of 5 years.

O. Gush Bet-El--Significant fleshing out of 'Ofra, Bet-El, Rimonim and Kokhav Hashahar, and the establishment of Kokhav Hashahar B east of the first Kokhav Hashahar.

P. Gush Efrayim--Adding a settlement to the settlements of Gitot and Mevo Shilo.

Q. Gust Shilo--Intensive continuation of the archeological excavations in the area through the establishment of three additional settlements: Shilo on the site of Batin Halawah, Shilo C on the site of Jabal al Batn, and Shilo D in (Jabal Rawat).

R. Elon More--The future city: Fine scenery, good climate, nice and hospitable neighbors. This is Elon More on Jabal Rujayb which is supposed to include 400 families within 5 years. Those who will not be absorbed there will be able to find a place a little bit northward, on (Jabal Tuyur) where the settlement of Tirza will be set up.

Now, after we have finished decorating the map, it is also possible to discuss the employment the inhabitants can expect. The plan of the settlement department states:

In the urban settlements about 60 percent of the families will be employed in branches of industry, crafts, catering for holiday-makers and tourism, and the rest will be employed in services and foreign jobs [work outside their settlement].

In the communal settlements: 50 percent will live on industry and crafts, catering for holiday-makers and tourism; 12 percent will live on intensive, profitable agriculture; 25 percent will live on work outside the settlement and 13 percent on local services.

This is only the scenario.

It is believed in the Jewish Agency Settlement Department, in its "second half" [reference not explained], that the scenario is realistic and realizable despite the existence of minor, trivial and insignificant problems such as "the minorities" or the many billions of pounds needed for the execution of the plan.

TRANSFER OF AL-'ARISH MILITARY GOVERNMENT BEGINS

TA282020 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 28 Mar 79 TA

[Text] Our correspondent points out that the Al-'Arish military government has started to move to the township of Shaykh (Zuyyad) where its new headquarters will be set up. For this purpose, several buildings are being repaired in Shaykh (Zuyyad) and the removal of office equipment has begun.

REGIONAL COUNCIL ESTABLISHED IN GAZA STRIP

TA281347 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 28 Mar 79 TA

[Text] In the Gaza Strip a Jewish regional council will be set up. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh has learned that this council will include the existing Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip, including the settlements of Qatif and Netzer Hazani. Last week the military authorities established four Jewish regional councils--'Ezyon, the Jordan Valley, Bet-El and Shomron--which total 45 settlements. The person in charge of these councils is Shlomo 'Amar, the staff officer for interior affairs in the Judaea and Samaria command. Previously, the Jewish settlements in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip did not enjoy a municipal status and it was therefore decided to solve this problem quickly before discussions on the nature of autonomy.

The military authorities in the Gaza Strip have not yet been instructed to prepare for the evacuation of its headquarters located in the town of Gaza.

Our correspondent Bassam Ha'abar says, however, that signs in the field indicate an intention to leave the present building and to move to a new headquarters shortly.

QIRYAT ARBA' RESIDENTS DECIDE TO RETAIN WEAPONS

TA290710 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 29 Mar 79 TA

[Text] The residents of Qiryat Arba' have decided that they will take whatever measures they consider necessary to prevent disturbances in the West Bank if the army does not intervene, but they said they would first inform security forces about disturbances, including the hoisting of foreign flags. The settlers said opening fire in self-defense is justifiable as long as IDF regulations regarding the use of weapons are adhered to. The residents resolved that they would not hand their weapons in to the army as long as the emergency situation on the West Bank continued.

SECURITY PERSONNEL DENY QIRYAT ARBA' STATEMENT

TA290716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 29 Mar 79 TA

[Excerpt] Security personnel have denied the claim made by inhabitants of Qiryat Arba' that their weapons were confiscated. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari was told that only eight rifles were taken in connection with the investigation into the death of the two young inhabitants of Halhul about 2 weeks ago and the weapons have already been returned to their owners. For the moment there are no results from the examination of the rifles and it is not yet known for certain who fired at the demonstrators in Halhul, Qirya residents or soldiers.

FIRST ARAB RAKAH SUPPORT FOR PEACE AGREEMENT

TA290827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 29 Mar 79 TA

[Text] The head of the council of Sakhnin village has issued an announcement of support for the peace agreement between Israel and Egypt. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar comments that this is the first case of a head of a council in the Arab sector from the RAKAH democratic front announcing his support for the agreement.

Another welcoming announcement was published today in the Arab paper AL-ANBA' from the local council of Fassuta on the Lebanese border. Altogether, seven Arab councils, out of 46, have issued announcements of support.

29 MAR MORNING PRESS ON AUTONOMY, COUNCILS, GESTURES

TA290744 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 29 Mar 79 TA

[Press review]

[Excerpts] DAVAR writes that theoretically Mr Begin and Presidents As-Sadat and Carter can rely on the PLO to continue to torpedo the autonomy program and that it will refrain from any softening or verbal moderation that might turn it into an indirect partner in the negotiations. However, Mr Begin is in fact isolated in the feeling of well-being he finds it possible to draw from the PLO's extremism.

President as-Sadat will want to prove he can achieve, in negotiations for the Palestinians, much more than Yasir 'Arafat would be able to, while President Carter, with or without the Nobel Prize, continues to believe that without PLO involvement the Palestinian problem will not be solved and, without its solution, the edge of the Israeli-Egyptian treaty will be dulled. In these circumstances, Israeli caution is preferable.

HA'ARETZ reacts to the order establishing a local council and four regional councils for the Jewish settlements in the Jordan Rift Valley, the Bet-El Subdistrict, in Samaria and Gush 'Etziyon. The paper says that the government should have known that personal [last word in English] autonomy--in these places, where there are no Arabs--will take on the coloring of territorial administration. In founding municipal authorities for the Jews, the Israeli military government has released the rest of the territories for Arab autonomy. These comments are not intended to negate the governor's order, but there is something in this order that indicates that the autonomy issue is much more complicated than the prime minister is in the habit of describing it.

HATZOFE writes that when the prime minister returns home, he will have to return to the country's daily life. The days of holiday and ceremony, even when accompanied by soul-searching, are few. The struggle will be with daily reality. It will be necessary to stand up to it, both in the continuation of the negotiations over autonomy and in economic and social problems. The government's efforts must be directed toward action in the face of these tests.

'AL HAMISHMAR states that it may be that the modest gestures, such as cutting down on administrative arrests, withdrawing the military command from the town of Gaza and political freedom of action will, to a certain extent, help to create a more relaxed atmosphere in Judaea and Samaria. If only this target is achieved, it should be welcomed, but anyone who expects that, with the aid of these gestures, it will be possible to arouse the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip to hold negotiations over autonomy can expect a great disappointment. Anybody who follows the mood in the territories will realize that no gestures will make the autonomy program acceptable to the Arab population.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES STATEMENT ON GONBAD-E KAVUS FIGHTING

LD281746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The Provisional Government of the Iranian Islamic revolution today issued a statement pertaining to the incidents in Gonbad-e Kavus. The text of the statement is as follows:

The Provisional Government of the Islamic revolution hereby informs the public that following the dispatch of an Interior Ministry delegation to Gonbad-e Kavus, consisting of Hajj Khalillah Resa'i and Mohammad Taher Malihi, and their talks there, a cease-fire has been declared in that town as of this afternoon. The government delegation is busy meeting the local people and investigating their demands. The Provisional Government of the Islamic revolution, welcoming the cease-fire, reassures the noble and honorable people of Gonbad-e Kavus and our Turkoman brothers that in the draft of the new constitution special attention will be paid to the Turkoman people, as to the population in other parts of the country.

The Provisional Government of the Islamic revolution believes that our Turkoman brothers, like the rest of the Iranians, have for years languished under the oppression and repressive despotism of the Pahlavi dynasty, and have suffered many privations. Now that today, as a result of the efforts of the Muslim nation of Iran, the Islamic revolution has taken the preliminary steps toward final victory, problems can be solved and privations made good only by the unity and cooperation of all strata and elements of the nation.

The Provisional Government of the Islamic revolution is hoping, and on its part will strive, to facilitate the greater and speedier progress of the honorable population of that region by working out and implementing special agricultural and development plans.

Gorgan Police Chief Arrested

LD281946 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] PARS reported from Gorgan this afternoon that following the agreement reached last night by the Turkoman representatives and the delegation dispatched by the government, Major Khoshkar, the city's police commandant, six members of the revolution guards, and a Turkoman representative by the name of Niazi, were arrested on their return to the Turkoman headquarters for talks on the cessation of hostilities by armed individuals, and are still being detained by them.

According to reports received from the Martyrs Hospital--formerly the Red Lion and Sun Hospital--and corroborated by Ayatollah Taleqani's staff in Gonbad-e Kavus, an ambulance belonging to the hospital was shot at today. The ambulance driver, Mr Meskuk, was wounded, and according to the driver, a nurse named Shahrbanu Nejati was killed after being hit by a bullet. According to information received from the said hospital another ambulance, with its crew, has not yet returned to the hospital from the Turkoman Quarter of the city.

The city's Islamic Revolution Guards have also confiscated from a People's Feda'i-ye guerrilla an MP-5 weapon, 60 rounds of ammunition, a Colt, and a quantity of cyanide; and from a Peugeot car on the hospital forecourt, driven by two Turkomans taking a wounded person to hospital, two handgrenades, one Colt and a number of rounds of ammunition were confiscated.

According to the latest report, the number of people wounded in that city is over 90.

Meanwhile, the police, gendarmerie and the garrison of Gonbad-e Kavus are in full control of the Islamic Revolution Guards. Also the relief group sent by Ayatollah Taleqani, consisting of three doctors, groups of nurses and assistant doctors, is now stationed at the Gonbad-e Kavus City Council headquarters for treatment of the wounded.

On the other hand, according to the latest reports which we have received, Khalilloah Reza'i, the father of the martyred Mujahidin, and Mohammad Taher Malihi, who were dispatched to Gonbad-e Kavus by the Interior Ministry, after their talks with the Turkomans, announced a cease-fire so that the two sides may prepare for talks in a calm atmosphere. Meanwhile, the government will be paying particular attention to the demands put forward by the Turkomans.

Relative Calm Reported

LD290856 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 29 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Following the cease-fire declaration in Gonbad-e Kavus, the city was relatively calm last night. According to His Eminence Ayatollah Taleqani's staff in the city, there was scattered shooting early last night, which injured four people. However, from midnight on the city was peaceful until 0600 today, when the sound of scattered shooting was again heard in the city. At the same time, a complete medical team dispatched on behalf of Ayatollah Taleqani is treating the wounded in the city's Red Lion and Sun Society hospital and the staff's clinic.

FURTHER REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON UPCOMING REFERENDUM

Sunni Leaders in Torbat-e Jan

LD281216 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Mohammad Jami al-Ahmadi, Hadi Qazi Seyfeddini, Qazi al-Ahmadi, and Shamseddin Modarres Ahmadi, representing the Sunni religious leaders of Torbat-e Jan, declare their (?support) and solidarity with the national uprising and Islamic movement of Iran, and have asked all the Sunni Muslims from Torbat-e Jan City to take part at the referendum on Friday and vote for an Islamic republic.

Kermanshah Tribesmen Cable Support

LD281220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Representaives of the tens of thousands of people of the Kakavand Tribe in Kermanshah Province, a large number of the people of Hashtrud, and inhabitants of Imam Khomeyni and Sa'di avenues in Mashhad City have sent telegrams to the Prime Ministry, copies of which were also received by PARS. In these cables, they declare their support for the Iranian Islamic revolution under Imam Khomeyni's leadership and the Provisional Government of the Islamic revolution.

Militarymen To Vote

LD281126 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The chief of the General Staff of the National Islamic Iranian Army issued the following announcement today: In the name of the Almighty: As human beings are inherently free and enjoy equal social and human rights under Islamic order, and ought to benefit from equal opportunities and possibilities in a hard-working and progressive society, it is hereby announced that the cadre of the National Islamic Armed Forces are granted leave to participate in the referendum on Friday, 30 March, and to freely vote for the government of their liking.

[Signed] Chief of the General Staff of the National Islamic Iranian Army Major General Farbod.

Mahabad Clergy Support Referendum

LD281900 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] In a statement, 22 ulema of the city of Mahabad have described participation in the referendum as an ethnic and religious duty. They declared: Now that this opportunity has been provided for the Iranian Muslim society, after years of aspiration to establish an Islamic state, to repay its debt to Islam by casting its decisive vote in favor of establishing the holy foundation of an Islamic state, the ulema of the city of Mahabad, therefore, deem it their duty to inform all Muslims that refraining from participating in this referendum will be regarded as contrary to national interests and to religious foundations and principles. There is no doubt that the national rights of the Kurdish people will be fully taken into account when the constitution is being compiled.

This statement has been issued against the following background: Yesterday Mr Ezzeddin Hoseyni, the Mahabad congregational imam and one of the Kurdish religious leaders, although supporting the Iranian nation's genuine revolution and expressing firm belief in the foundations and fundamental principles of Islam, declared in a statement that he would refrain from participating in the referendum because the content of the Islamic republic is ambiguous and unknown, and because, in particular, the questions of Kordestan autonomy, of the right to determine its own destiny, of a free Iran and of the legitimate rights of other peoples are unclear.

Interior Minister Requests Cooperation

LD282225 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued by the minister of interior:

In His Almighty name: In order to bring about conditions in which all the dear compatriots can participate with complete calm and freedom in the referendum of the Islamic revolution, I hereby request the public at large to refrain from demonstrations and agitation of all kinds on the polling days--30 and 31 March 1979. Also, apart from the personnel guarding the ballot boxes, I expect all the other dear brothers and sisters not to carry arms in the polling booths and the surrounding areas.

In order to make the referendum easier for people working at the polling booths, I also expect the brothers and sisters to refrain, as far as possible, from bringing their private cars into the thoroughfares surrounding the polling booths. I thank all the dear compatriots in anticipation of their cooperation.

[Signed] Ahmad Sadr Haj Seyyed-Javadi, interior minister.

Alert for 29-31 March

LD282202 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Communique No 17 of the Central Committee of the Islamic revolution of Iran]

[Text] An order for an alert is hereby issued to all the brothers and esteemed responsible officials of the committees and the armed units of the Islamic revolution throughout the country on Thursday, Friday and Saturday--29, 30 and 31 March--in order to oppose all counterrevolutionary activities.

[Signed] Central Committee of the Islamic Revolution of Iran.

Assyrian, Chaldean Association

LD290900 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 29 Mar 79 LD

[Text] On the approach of the great and historic referendum of 30 March 1979 in support of the Iranian revolution under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni, an association of Christian Assyrians and Chaldeans of Iran has announced its existence. The Assyrian and Chaldean association hereby invites all compatriots to cast their vote in favor of an Islamic republic and to defend the gains of the movement in a committed manner, thereby neutralizing all the plots and agents of the aggressive and expansionist governments.

Voting Details, Results

LD281100 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The referendum staff of the Interior Ministry announced today that voting and election [as heard] will take place on 30 and 31 March, between 0800 and 1800. The results will be made public not later than 5 days afterwards.

KORDESTAN PARTY DELEGATION MEETS WITH KHOMEYNI

LD281815 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] An eight-man delegation representing the Iranian Democratic Party of Kordestan met with Ayatollah Khomeyni in his house at 1745 today. The delegation, led by Dr 'Abdorrahman Qasemlu, general secretary of the Iranian Democratic Party of Kordestan, during its 45-minute long talk with the Imam Khomeyni discussed the current situation in Kordestan, and described the situation in that province.

At the conclusion of his talks, Qasemlu referred to them as "satisfactory" and said: In order to remove misunderstandings and to cut short the hands of mercenary agents and traitors to the homeland, it was decided to hold a meeting and talks tomorrow with Engineer Bazargan, the prime minister of the Provisional Islamic Government, so that technical points and the problems of Kordestan may be discussed with him and that steps may be taken in order to solve the problems in the region.

TEHRAN REPORTS SHOOTING IN ZANJAN ON 27 MARCH

LD281846 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] At 2300 last night in Zanjan a group of counterrevolutionary elements made another attempt, by throwing up barricades and shooting on the security kiosk of the Guardians of Revolution at the entrance to the Sanjan-Bijar highway, to foment chaos and disruption in the city. The Guardians of Revolution, with maximum alertness, returned their fire and halted their advance. The shoot-out lasted 3 hours and the counterrevolutionary elements managed to use the cover of darkness to escape, without causing any damage.

SANANDAJ RALLY SUPPORTS PALESTINIANS, CONDEMNS TREATY

LD281852 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] A scheduled mammoth rally was held by the Sanandaj people at the city's great mosque this afternoon in order to express support for the Islamic republic. During the rally, which began with ardent slogans in support of the movement of the Islamic revolution in Iran and support for the efforts of the great scholar Ahmad Moftizadeh toward the realization of the aspirations of the Kurdish people under the banner of Islam, Mr Mozaffar Partow-Mah, who spent many long years away from the homeland because of the oppressive conditions created by the previous regime, spoke about the rights of the Palestinian people and the history of their struggles. He expounded the 31-year struggle of the Palestinian people to attain their just rights, which has constantly been coupled with enduring the most vicious attacks, plunders, destruction and slayings by the enemies. He extolled the Palestinian people as a heroic people. He then called on the people of Kordestan--in view of the agreement of the Iranian Islamic Government with the demands of all the Muslim people of Iran, including the Kurdish people--to censure those elements who, by kindling the fires of war, enmity and slayings of the people at the instigation of foreigners, are aiming at taking over the revolution of the Iranian people. His speech was concluded amid decisive support from the people.

Other speakers at the meeting condemned the signing of the unilateral Arab-Israel peace treaty, which is tantamount to signing a document for enslaving the Egyptian people and a blow to the Palestinian people and Muslim governments in the world. Criticizing the one-sided and ill-intentioned attitude adopted by certain papers, they sharply condemned the misrepresentation of facts and the nonapplication of the principle of truthfulness in the business of journalism, particularly with regard to the issues of Kordestan.

At the conclusion of the rally, various groups of people called for a rally to be held at 1000 tomorrow in Azadi Square in Sanandaj to discuss the issues carried by the press. Meanwhile, the great scholar Ahmad Moftizadeh was invited to address the people on the current issues in Kordestan at a meeting to be held in the great mosque at 1500 tomorrow. At the conclusion of the rally the people held a march.

PARS REPORTS 28 MARCH DEMONSTRATIONS IN TABRIZ

NC282230 Tehran PARS in Arabic 2220 GMT 28 Mar 79 NC

[Text] Tehran, 28 March--Over 600,000 persons in Tabriz demonstrated today in support of the establishment of an Islamic republic in Iran. The demonstrators denounced the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. PARS reports from Tabriz that the town was almost paralyzed and that most of the stores in the town were closed.

COURT AUTHORITIES RELEASE 304 DETAINEES

LD290858 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 29 Mar 79 LD

[Text] According to a report from the Iranian Islamic Revolution Court, 304 accused people have been released from prison by close of business yesterday, after the necessary investigation and consideration. The names of those concerned will be published by the press.

COMMERCE MINISTER COMMENTS ON FOOD SUPPLY

LD281652 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The commerce minister has announced that the exclusive permit for the import of goods, particularly foodstuffs, is to be abolished. He said: The people should not have the least worries about foodstuffs, as these commodities intended for consumption exist in sufficient quantities. The commerce minister announced: By waging a relentless battle against hoarding and overcharging, we will attempt to establish a healthy balance between supply and demand.

TEHRAN UNIVERSITY MONITORS EARTHQUAKE IN BEHBEHAN

LD282104 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The geophysics institute of Tehran University reported that at 0504 and 46 seconds today an earthquake with an intensity of 5 degrees on the Richter scale took place in the vicinity of Behbehan. According to the PARS correspondent's dispatch from Ahvaz, this earthquake in Behbehan has not resulted in any loss of life or damage to property, but no reports have been received about any probable damage in rural areas.

AYATOLLAH KHOMENI INTERVIEWED BY VIENNA DIE PRESSE

AU231625 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 23 Mar 79 p 3 AU

[Heinz Strein interview with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni in Qom, during a 2-day visit at the invitation of Khomeyni and his Islamic committee--date not given]

[Text] Question: Most venerable Imam: Can a non-Muslim Iranian--and there are quite a few of those, from the Armenian and East Syrian Christians through the old Zoroastrians to the strong Jewish presence with a broad tradition--vote on 30 March for your Islamic republic, for the Jumhuriyah Islami, without fear and with a clear conscience?

Answer: "Our nation is overwhelmingly Islamic. It will stick to Islam. It appreciates Islamic justice. Our history informs us about the original Islamic government system. It shows us what governments and leaders were like at that time. The most holy Ali, the first imam of the Shi'ites, ruled a state which included the Arab Peninsula, Iran, Iraq, Egypt, Syria and other regions. Once a judge appointed by the imam summoned the imam to his court, because a Jew had filed a suit against the government. The most holy Ali and the Jew were seated side by side before the judge, who eventually sentenced the imam, that is, the government. And the most holy Ali accepted this verdict without objection. I ask myself whether such a degree of justice has ever been achieved by any other, non-Islamic government system."

"We aspire to this just form of state. I, personally, am of the opinion that our people have repeatedly voted for the Islamic republic already. However, we do not want to give anyone any cause for objections. Thus, a free referendum will be held, to prove to the whole world that our people have made a free decision. But even today there is no doubt about its decision."

Question: Among the followers of the Shi'a, certainly apart from the above-mentioned minorities, in Iran there are Islamic Sunnis, and ideological groups which are hostile to any religion. The latter especially have been able to acquire a regular arsenal of arms under the chaotic conditions of the revolution. There is talk about the danger of a civil war as soon as the referendum is over....

Answer: "All Muslims, Shi'ites and Sunnis, are brothers. Anyone disseminating rumors to the opposite is an enemy of the Islamic renewal movement. All religious minorities will enjoy the protection, even promotion by the Islamic government system that is aimed at insuring for every Iranian, irrespective of his religion, ethnic origin, language and so forth, justice, welfare and a happy life. Our legacy is a country in ruins, a country in unrest. All Iranians must participate in the reconstruction of this country stricken by earthquakes, foreigners and enemies. The government alone cannot master the problems that are piling up before our nation. They can still be mastered by this or that class of society alone. [sentence as published] We all, whatever our work may be, must join hands in implementing the Islamic and humane goals of the revolution. The revolution will improve the life and social status of the most handicapped strata of the people. Every group that advocates a better life for the poor can fully identify itself with the Islamic revolution.

"Still, there is no call for uncontrolled expressions of joy. Our victory does not need them. What we need is order, discipline, a humane attitude, an attitude in keeping with Islamic principles. Looting and occupation of public institutions must cease. It is the task of the clergy to see to this in its local areas. Ethnic groups, individuals and buildings must not be attacked. Today the police, the gendarmerie, the army, all executive forces are on our side. They are our brothers. We must protect them and help them rather than attack them.

"Weapons are communal property. Their sale is forbidden by the religion. The same goes for keeping and hiding such weapons. He who does not surrender them soon will be prosecuted. All weapons must be surrendered to the Islamic revolution committees, which in turn will use them to equip the Mujahidin, the soldiers of Islam. They alone may carry arms, no one else."

Question: In your speeches you have repeatedly and most sharply attacked the "West," the "imperialists and the Zionists." Is this not indicative of a rather clear "leaning toward the East" of the Islamic republic of Iran?

Answer: "We are resolved to struggle with all our might against everyone who threatens us with aggression. It is no longer possible for any leader or for any people to rule over other nations. We expect all powers to abstain from interfering in our internal affairs. If there is no such interference, we will have good relations with all of them. I have repeatedly stressed that we are a nation of humanists. Our great prophet has struggled for humanitarian goals. We are following his example and will seek contacts especially with oppressed peoples. However, we are ready to conduct our international affairs in a peaceful and humanitarian manner. Our government system will also fit foreign trade, economic relations, oil deliveries and similar matters into this framework."

Question: You have repeatedly spoken of human rights, but what about the rights of women in Iran? In the past few days there have been passionate demonstrations in Tehran, by tens of thousands of Iranian women, for their rights threatened by the new Islamic order, against the reintroduction of the veil and the degradation vis-a-vis men. These women, whom you yourself only recently called "sisters of the revolution," certainly do not stage street demonstrations for no reason at all?

Answer: "Islam grants women the same rights as men. It encourages women to participate in public life like men. Islam has even privileged women vis-a-vis men inasmuch as even the best of men must be brought up by women.

"If women in Islam are subjected to certain restrictions, then this is only for their own good. Islamic ministries must stop being cesspools of vice. Women in civil service must not be naked. Nothing against women's work, but at work they must be decently dressed from a religious point of view. My appeal for women's dress in keeping with Islamic principles is not an order to return to the veil!"

Question: But these are merely externals. As I was told by the women in the capital, they are primarily afraid of the one-sided Islamic divorce law that grants men everything and women nothing.

Answer: "In this respect, you have not been objectively informed. The Islamic right first of all provides for warning the man who maltreats his wife. If he does not see reason, he will be punished. If all this does not help, the local religious leader is authorized to dissolve the marriage in the woman's interest."

Question: Another hot issue: What will happen to freedom of opinion, freedom of the press in the Islamic republic? So far, the practice has been rather contradictory: A partly rather critical Iranian domestic press, but on the other hand repeated obstruction of reports going abroad.

Answer: "I am for freedom, but against its misuse. As you have testified yourself, there already exists freedom of opinion and freedom of the press. Ever since its beginning, Islam has had such power and splendor that it automatically silenced its enemies. Today this power and splender are shining anew. Let them say and write whatever they want--all this cannot do us any harm."

"However, we tolerate neither misuse nor treason. Our people have shed too much costly blood for the triumph of an Islamic republic, and not perhaps of an Islamic democratic republic that would only be another republic of the Western type."

Question; So, after all, it is a militant position against our Western way of life. Will this not, after all, lead to hostility toward foreigners, to disregard and discrimination of their religious beliefs and life?

Answer: "In the Islamic republic that I am going to establish, all freedoms for foreign citizens, irrespective of their occupation, are guaranteed as long as their presence does not become harmful to Iran. And, again, as far as the believers of other religions are concerned, under my rule, they will live in dignity and prosperity, an existence of which they were deprived by the old regime!"

NVOI CALLS FOR 'PURGE', WELCOMES SALARY REDUCTIONS

TA282027 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1745 GMT on 25 March carries a commentary entitled "Let Us Implement the Purge Uninterruptedly and Effectively."

The commentary, after noting that the Provisional Revolutionary Government has decided to implement the popular demand that the shah's supporters be purged from all government establishments, says: "The Iranian nation's great revolution has dealt heavy blows at the supporters of the shah's defunct and bloodshedding regime. Nevertheless, it must be admitted that state establishments have not completely been purged of supporters of the shah, SAVAKists and enemies of the revolution. There were no organizations, official or unofficial, to which SAVAK agents and the defunct regime's and the homeless shah's men had not extended their hands. The fact is that military and civilian establishments everywhere were under the observance and control of the shah's criminal security department over the past 25 years."

After stressing the "evil crimes committed by the shah's security agents," the commentary says: "In view of this, one of the Provisional Revolutionary Government's basic tasks is to purge all official and unofficial establishments of the filthy presence of subversive elements and enemies of the revolution." It says: "The majority of these dishonest and treacherous people have infiltrated Imam Khomeyni's committees in this or that city or village, and are striking at the revolution's achievements. In some places, they are resorting to subversion and plots against Mr Bazargan's Provisional Revolutionary Government. These SAVAKists and the defunct regime's tools are also attacking the rights and security of honest and innocent citizens in a bid to create dissent among the people. In some places, they have openly declined to implement the revolutionary government's directives, and in others they have acted against those directives."

The commentary then refers to the Kordestan incidents, and says that "one can see the filthy hand of SAVAKists and the enemies of the revolution in those events." It says: "Kordestan's honorable and heroic sons want administrative and (?autonomy) rights within the framework of the revolutionary government. The Kordestan peoples' inalienable rights have been conceded by both Great Ayatollah Taleqani and members of the Provisional Revolutionary Government, who on various occasions have expressed their support. But as a result of the subversion and plots of the defunct regime's supporters and of (?racist) and antirevolutionary elements, bloody clashes broke out between Kordestan's honorable and patriotic people and the revolutionary and patriotic soldiers."

The commentary concludes: "This incident and other similar incidents have made the complete purge of the remnants of Pahlavi's corrupt regime from civil and military establishments and organizations vitally essential. Such a purge should be carried out in all military and civilian establishments and in all government departments and offices throughout the country with great zeal."

The radio then carries a commentary wlecoming the Provisional Revolutionary Government's decision to reduce the salaries of ministers and senior officials. After saying that under the government's decision "a minister's maximum pay will be no more than 15,000 tumans," the commentary scores the shah's administration for plundering the nation's wealth by paying ministers and senior officials salaries ranging between 70,000 to 100,000 tumans. The commentary says that while the shah's family, relatives and a handful of followers "accumulated huge wealth," ordinary Iranians "slept with hungry stomachs at night."

After noting that "while Reza Shah's sons, brothers and sisters seized the people's property in every part of the country and built legendary places, Iranian peasants had to emigrate to the towns in hope of earning a living because they were starving," The commentary concludes: "Mr Bazargan's Provisional Revolutionary Government has taken effective steps toward eliminating the remnants of the corruption of the defunct regime, one of which is legitimate salaries for the ministers and the prime minister."

AFGHANISTAN

KABUL RADIO CITED ON FORMATION OF SUPREME DEFENSE COUNCIL

BK290915 Karachi Overseas Service in English 0900 GMT 29 Mar 79 BK

[Text] In Afghanistan, a Supreme Defense Council has been formed. It will be headed by President Nur Mohammad Taraki. Radio Kabul says that President Nur Mohammad Taraki will now act as supreme commander of the armed forces of Afghanistan.

BANGLADESH

GOVERNMENT RELEASES 447 MORE PRISONERS

BK241110 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0835 GMT 24 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The government has ordered the immediate release of another 447 prisoners from different jails of the country on the eve of the ninth Independence Day. An official announcement issued in Dacca today says of them, 185 are political prisoners.

PRESIDENT PROMOTED TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL

BK231239 Hong Kong AFP in English 1017 GMT 23 Mar 79 BK

[Text] Dacca, 23 Mar (AFP)--President Ziaur Rahman has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant general from major general, the daily "SANGBAD" quoting an official gazette reported today.

The promotion came into effect from February 28, the report added.

INDIA

DESAI TALKS WITH THAI PREMIER AT DELHI AIRPORT

BK281441 Delhi ISI in English 1431 GMT 28 Mar 79 BK

[Text] Prime Minister Morarji Desai had informal talks with Thailand Premier Kriangsak Chamanan in New Delhi at the airport VIP Lounge on 28 March, reports AIR [All-India Radio]. Kriangsak Chamanan had a brief stopover in the capital on the morning of Wednesday on his way back home from Moscow. He was received at Delhi Airport by Minister of External Affairs Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Minister of State for External Affairs Somarendra Kundu. The talks between the two leaders lasted over an hour during which it was understood they discussed bilateral and international relations. Prospects of closer trade relations and cooperation between India and the countries of the ASEAN group figured during the discussion. The situation in Indochina and Kampuchea also came up.

Discussion on Indochina

BK281045 Hong Kong AFP in English 0610 GMT 28 Mar 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 28 Mar (AFP)--The exchange of views held here this morning between Thai Prime Minister General Kriangsak Chamanan and Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai has led to a "better appreciation" of each country's stand on developments in Indochina, according to official sources.

The two leaders met for about an hour during a brief stopover by General Kriangsak at Delhi Airport on his way home from an official visit to the Soviet Union.

The sources said the situation in Vietnam and Kampuchea (Cambodia) figured prominently during the talks which were also attended by Indian Foreign Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. General Kriangsak informed Mr Desai that there was still no "clarity" as to who was in control in Kampuchea. His information was that the forces of the overthrown Pol Pot regime were still active, the sources said.

Gen. Kriangsak told the press before leaving that his talks with Mr. Desai were "very useful," while Mr. Desai described them as "very friendly, very good."

Besides Indochina, they also discussed bilateral matters, including the possibility of joint fishing ventures, the sources added. During the meeting the Thai leader also invited Indian President Sanjiva Reddy and Prime Minister Desai to visit Thailand. The invitations were accepted in principle, the sources said.

RAM ON INDIA'S PLANNED ACQUISITION OF SUBMARINES, JAGUARS

BK290923 Delhi ISI in English 0843 GMT 29 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The deputy prime minister and defence minister, Jagjivan Ram, expressed concern over the recent development in various parts of the world, particularly the happenings in the neighbouring countries, reports AIR [All-India Radio]. Replying to the debate on the defence budget in the Lok Sabha on March 28, he regretted that the disarmament talks had been impeded and the naval presence of the superpowers in the Indian Ocean continued to cause concern to the littoral states. Developments in Afghanistan and Iran had an intimate bearing on the security aspects of India. He said the Chinese aggression in Vietnam and the increased arms supplies to China and Pakistan were also factors to be taken into consideration in our defence preparedness.

Jagjivan Ram said that the government were looking into the possibility of acquiring more submarines and also planning to manufacture them. He announced that the warships required by the navy were now manufactured in the country. India's aircraft carrier Vikrant was being refurbished with the modern carrier aircraft. The defence minister emphasized the need to modernise our armed forces so that the country's borders were secured against all eventualities. The policy was not to increase the manpower, but the efficiency and fire power of the armed forces.

Defending the Jaguar deal, the defence minister regretted that a wrong report had been circulated in this regard. He assured the house that the first batch of aircraft would arrive in the country in about 3 months as originally planned. There was no increase in the cost of the aircraft. Arrangements for indigenous production were going ahead according to schedule. The morale of our armed forces was quite high and he assured the house that every effort would be made to improve the service conditions of the defence personnel.

INDIAN OFFICIAL ON AIRLIFTING NUCLEAR FUEL FROM U.S.

BK271254 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Dr Sethna, has said that the enriched uranium for the Tarapur power plant will reach India within the next 15 days. Talking to newsmen in Pune, Dr Sethna said arrangements have been made to airlift 16.8 tons of enriched uranium from the United States. He said this will meet the requirement of the Tarapur plant for a full year.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY ISSUES ANNUAL REPORT

BK241509 Delhi ISI in English 1434 GMT 24 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The Ministry of External Affairs' Annual Report 1978-1979 stressed that the policy of nonalignment to which India remains formally committed has "served the country well in safeguarding national goals." India has "always underlined that the validity of the policy of nonalignment rested on the recognition of the sovereign equality of nations and the right of each country to determine its own social and political system and to determine freely how, on the basis of mutual respects, to cooperate with other nations."

It was in keeping with our policy of nonalignment that the government, the report says, was able to create a climate of confidence with our neighbours. There is "a greater recognition that the corrosion of suspicion and friction can be overcome and, on the positive side, the benefit of economic cooperation could ease the guardian of development [as received] and create an atmosphere of stability so essential for any enlightened national goals." The report mentions at length the growing economic cooperation with Nepal. Pakistan has "been assured not only of strict adherence to noninterference but that India respects its integrity and would rejoice in its economic advancement." The pctentials for mutually advantageous trade with Pakistan are vast.

Referring to the foreign minister's recent visit to China, the report says that the visit "did lead to a full discussion on all problems and there was ground for satisfaction that it improved understanding of each other's viewpoints." India hopes that "the process of normalisation of relations with China will continue so that outstanding problems, including the boundary question, can be resolved."

On the developments on Indochina the report says that India "could not but deplore" the Chinese massive attack on Vietnam. India reaffirms that the integrity and national sovereignty and independent personality of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos must be respected. There was "notable improvement" in India's bilateral relations with the countries of Southeast Asia.

The dramatic changes in Afghanistan and in Iran were "internal" and India "recognised the new regimes with alacrity."

In Africa India has pledged moral and material support in the liberation struggle for majority rule in Namibia and Zimbabwe and for the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. Despite a surcharged atmosphere between the two superpowers, India's bilateral relations with each of them were "uncontaminated by the cold war spirit." Even when "differences existed on specific issues, the climate of relations was friendly and propitious for continuing improvement." The report records India's "serious concern" at the suspension of the U.S.A-USSR talks on the Indian Ocean and India's desire for the talks to be resumed.

INDO-POLISH COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED 24 MAR

BK241518 Delhi ISI in English 1442 GMT 24 Mar 79 BK

[Text] India and Poland on 24 March signed a protocol in New Delhi at the end of the sixth session of the Indo-Polish joint commission for economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation, reports PTI.

It was signed by P. Ramachandran, minister for energy, who led the Indian delegation, and by W. Lejczak, the Polish minister for mining.

Under the protocol, the two countries have agreed to encourage greater contacts between Indo-Polish chambers of commerce and industry. India has laid emphasis on its requirement of urea and sulphur and Poland stressed the need for raising its export of engineering goods to India.

India and Poland agreed on further expansion of cooperation in the field of mining and a contract for sinking two shafts in the Jharia coalfield has been concluded.

The two sides agreed to promote the small scale sector in India in fields related to the manufacture of textile machinery components, handlooms, electronic items, agro-based industries and spare parts for coal mining machinery.

In the area of industrial expansion are woolen textile machinery, machine tools, electronic components for power projects and design and construction of trawlers. Projects in the chemical industry were also identified.

A separate programme of cooperation in science and technology for 2 years was also signed on 24 March by Professor M.G. Menon, secretary in the Department of Science and Technology, and J. Czapla, Polish ambassador in India.

PAKISTAN

COURT REJECTS BHUTTO HABEAS CORPUS PETITION

BK291014 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 29 Mar 79 BK

[Text] The full bench of Sind High Court today dismissed two petitions of habeas corpus seeking release of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto. The full bench comprised Mr Justice I. Mahmud, Mr Justice Fakruddin Ibrahim, Mr Justice Zafar Hussain Mirza.

The same full bench also dismissed another petition of (?co-warrantor) nature challenging the assumption of office by the present chief justice of Pakistan.

DEATH OF PLO OFFICIAL BLAMED ON 'IMPERIALIST AGENTS'

BK281240 Hong Kong AFP in English 0919 GMT 28 Mar 79 BK

[Text] Islamabad, 28 Mar (AFP)--The murder of a Palestine Liberation Organization representative here on March 22 was the work of "imperialist agents", the PLO's chief representative Yusuf Abu Hantash said today.

This affirmation contradicted the initial theory of Pakistani police that the killing of Mazin Zaki Davesh was a "family affair". Mr Davesh, the number three man in the PLO mission, was reportedly shot while in his home with his two wives, his children and a nephew.

Mr. Hantash said the killing was political and had nothing to do with the Iraqi-Palestinian bloodshed in Pakistan last year.